

Crowmarsh News

Issue 500

October 2020

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 currently 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
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Leaflet distribution

For a single sheet loose insert in the *Crowmarsh News* (size up to A4), our current rate is £30.00 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, Kirsty Dawson, Amanda Maher, Rev Kevin Beer

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 November issue of *Crowmarsh News* must reach us before our **20th October deadline**.

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

crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com

or deliver to the Editors at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

crowmarshadvertisers@gmail.com

or deliver to The Old School, Benson Lane.

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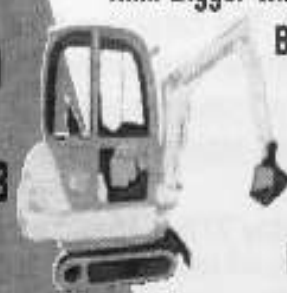
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WELCOME BACK

We are delighted to return to a printed issue of the *Crowmarsh News* this month. Thank you, readers and advertisers alike, for your forbearance. We switched to an Online edition in May because we did not feel that we could ask our distributors to carry out doorstep deliveries during the lockdown that was imposed because of the coronavirus pandemic.

That pandemic is far from history yet, and we can only hope that conditions will allow us to continue with the printed issues. We are especially grateful to our distributors, who have agreed to resume normal deliveries, but we are by no means complacent about the future.

You may have noticed on our cover that this is issue number 500 of the (printed) *Crowmarsh News*. We had rather hoped to make a triumphant comeback with this special number, but as the country braces itself for a second wave of infections, we thought it more sensible to keep this as a low-key issue.

The Editorial Team

... and we need you!

Are you good with words, can you use Microsoft Word and do you have a little time to read through contributions once every few months? Or are you able to use Microsoft Publisher to design our pages?

The *Crowmarsh News* needs more team members - no special technical skills or other qualifications required. Please email

crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com

if you can help, or want to know a bit more before committing.

Dog Owners

We know that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible and efficient in cleaning up after their dogs. But we are receiving messages about dog fouling in the village, especially on grass verges.

Please ensure that you clean up after your dogs.

The Corn Exchange Cinema

All regular performances normally start at 7:30pm unless stated otherwise. Tickets cost £8 for Adults and £5 for under 15s unless otherwise stated.

There are now some cinema bookings available and we will be adding more films after we have been able to ascertain the level of demand. Please take a look at our web site, www.cornexchange.org.uk for further programme updates.

All the Covid-19 safety information is available on the website. Please take a moment to read this before you come to a performance.

Friday 2nd October

7:30pm Babyteeth (15)

Saturday 3rd October

2:30pm The Snow Queen – Mirrorlands (U)

Wallingford Photographic Club

Wallingford Photographic Club is back for the 2020–2021 season. All meetings are online at the moment but we are offering a full programme of speakers, competitions, and other events to help you improve your photography and meet like-minded people.

The club meets via Zoom every Thursday. Evenings start at 7.30pm and run until around 9.30pm, with Zoom access from 7.15pm. Please visit www.wallingfordphoto.club to learn more about the club.

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A plane crash near Crowmarsh

During the night of the 23rd August 1949, an RAF Mosquito crashed and burst into flames in a field on Battle Farm near Benson Aerodrome.

The plane had a crew of two, one of whom was thrown clear of the wrecked plane but with his clothes on fire. He had to be chased around the field before he was caught and held down while his burning clothes were extinguished.

The other member of the crew, believed to be the pilot, was trapped in the cockpit. Despite the intense heat, Mr David Chamberlain and

two of his farm hands tried to remove him. They had almost succeeded when the flames became too fierce and they had to stop their rescue attempt. Luckily, by this time, the RAF crash tenders had arrived from Benson Aerodrome and were able to play their foam jets onto the fuselage enabling the injured pilot to be dragged clear. Despite recovering from his injuries, he retired from the RAF. The co-pilot recovered and continued to serve.

The Mosquito, unlike most aircraft, was constructed of wood and would have burned very easily. Because of the light wooden frame it was one of the fastest planes of World War II.



Guided Historical Walks

Wallingford Museum's experienced team are now taking bookings for historical tours of the town or castle.

These tours will follow government guidelines for Covid-19 prevention, with social distancing in place throughout and any other necessary precautions.

To Book a tour

- All bookings are via email: pburton6@talktalk.net
- Request a day and time to suit you and we will do our best to arrange it.
- Request either a Town or a Castle walk.
- You will be contacted by email to confirm or adjust arrangements.

Arrangements

- Tours will meet beneath the Town Hall in Wallingford Market Place.
- You will be in a group of no more than 5 people (plus Guide) on any tour.
- Cost is £10 per head, for a tour lasting between 90-120 mins.
- Payment must be made in cash on the day.

- Exact money must be handed to the guide in an open envelope on which you have written a name and phone number for each participant, to allow compliance for Track and Trace.

We shall look forward to hearing from you.

For General Museum enquiries please contact the curator on 651127

www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

... and the Bookshop too

We are pleased to announce that Wallingford Museum's bookshop has re-opened – social distancing and precautionary measures will be observed.

This is a good opportunity for book-lovers and present-seekers to make a point of visiting the bookstall whilst Wallingford Museum remains temporarily closed.

We have an excellent selection of good second-hand books (both fiction and non-fiction) at sensible prices. We'll be open every Friday and Saturday from 10.30 to 1pm.

As a re-opening offer all books will be £1 each (cash), but do pay more if you wish! We look forward to seeing you - it's free to browse!

Isabella Darby



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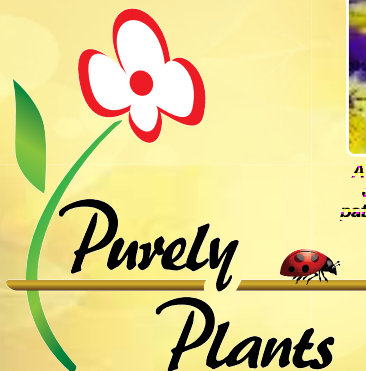
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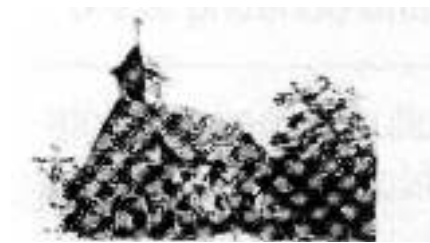
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St Mary Magdalene's Church Crowmarsh Gifford

Team Vicar: The Rev'd Kevin Beer
34 Thames Mead
Crowmarsh Gifford. OX10 8EY
Tel: 01491 599873

Email: teamvicar@wallingfordcofe.org.uk
Churchwardens:

Margaret Foster, tel: 836076
Eva Thompson, tel: 201675

October Services & Events (at St Mary Magdalene unless otherwise stated):

Sunday 4th	11am	Harvest Festival Family Service
Saturday 10th	11am	Crowmarsh Virtual Community Café on Zoom
Sunday 11th	11am	Parish Communion**
Sunday 18th	11am	Parish Communion (followed by brief APCM, also on Zoom)
Sunday 25th	11am	Family Communion**

(** these services will be Livestreamed on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/wallingfordcofe with alternate Sundays broadcast from Brightwell at 9.30am)

Morning Prayer – every Friday at 9am

Evening Prayer – every Sunday at 6pm (switching to 4pm when clocks change)

Full details at www.wallingfordcofe.org.uk/calendar

Thank you to everyone who sponsored me (and/or my Springer Spaniel Ralph!) for the Oxfordshire Historic Churches "Ride or Stride" event last month. We managed to cover 17 miles and 21 churches from Newnham, Mongewell, Cholsey, Aston Tirrold & Upthorpe, The Moretons, Brightwell, Sotwell, Wallingford, and Crowmarsh in just under 4 hours. Ralph was still not worn out as he presented me with a ball to throw as soon as I slumped in a chair in the garden. All donations are split equally between the OHCT and also St Mary Magdalene's and can be made via the <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/KevinBeer2> website which will remain open until the end of October.

As we are still unable to serve refreshments, the Community Café continues as a virtual Zoom meeting at 11am on the 2nd Saturday of each month. All are welcome using Zoom meeting ID: 687 610 8967 & passcode: 422377. Please use your real name and you will be admitted from the "waiting room". We hope that this will continue to provide social interaction as it looks like we will all be spending a lot of time at home in the next 6 months. If anyone needs help in connecting, then I can help you get set up so that you can also then see your family and friends. The village's COVID-19 support groups are still in operation if anyone needs help getting shopping, prescriptions, etc. Also, the Wallingford Food

Bank and Christians Against Poverty (a church-run Debt Counselling charity) are available if needed. Please email or phone me (599873) for any of the above, as well as for any more spiritual matters!

At present, our Sunday worship continues within our "COVID-safe" restrictions, including our Harvest Festival Family Service. This is a great reminder to look beyond our immediate situation to give thanks for all the things we take for granted, especially our food and all that sustains us. Experiencing the beautiful countryside around us and counting our blessings is a sure way to lift our spirits!

**Blessings,
Rev Kev**



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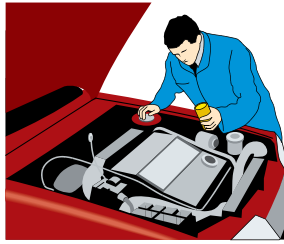
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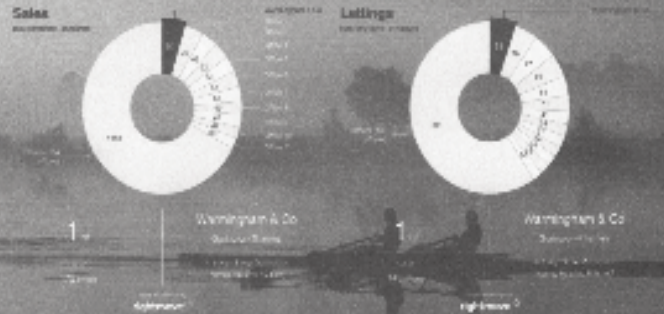
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Crowmarsh Parish Council News

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>

Crowmarsh Parish Council met on-line using Zoom on Thursday 3 September.

Present: Cllrs Stephen Sherbourne (in the chair), David Rowley, Ken McCrea, Fleur Stevenson, Andrew Johnson, Stuart Soames and Julian Park, District Cllr Sue Cooper, Dr Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer) and Mrs Sue Rance (Clerk).

Apologies were received from Cllrs John Griffin, David Topliss and Liz Ryall, and District Cllr Andrea Powell. One member of the public joined the Zoom meeting as an observer.

Finance

Payments agreed included £499 for repairs to the toilets in the pavilion, £100 for Zoono biomist sanitising at the playground and £396 for hand sanitisers inside the Pavilion. £564 was paid to Arrow Fencing for providing and installing the memorial bench outside The Bell and £117 to SODC for registering the planning application for improvements to the pavilion. The annual playground inspection cost £231.60 and grass cutting in August cost £690.

The Parish Council's financial regulations have been updated to include online banking.

The Finance Officer has been unable to find a cheaper alternative contractor to empty the dog waste bins, so we will continue to pay SODC's increased charges.

Planning decisions

P20/S1589/FUL Permission has been granted by South Oxfordshire District Council for development at the Springs Golf Club, Wallingford Road, North Stoke OX10 6BE. A condition of the planning permission is that the work on the original hotel building must be carried out before the holiday lodges are built.

The County Council has refused permission for gravel extraction and a marina on the River

Thames in Cholsey Parish near the A4130, opposite the Carmel College boathouse. The Parish Council had opposed this application.

Consultation on applications

P20/S2701/HH 24 Howbery Farm, Crowmarsh Gifford. Replacement of conservatory with single-storey extension.
NO OBJECTION.

P20/S2787/LB 2 Church Cottages, North Stoke OX10 6BH. Replacement roof.
NO OBJECTION.

Neighbourhood Plan

Responses to the consultation on the draft plan are being collated. SODC responded and has offered to come and discuss the points raised with representatives from the Parish Council and the neighbourhood plan group. It was agreed that there would not be a public drop-in meeting in the village halls. No referendum can be held on the neighbourhood plan until May 2021.

District Council report

District Cllr Cooper reported that the Local Plan is to go through without amendment following the examination by an inspector.

A decision will be made in October whether to rebuild the council offices on Benson Lane or not. Seventy per cent of district council staff are willing and able to work at home for part of the time, so such a large building is not now needed. There is space for a smaller office building either opposite Didcot railway station or at Abbey House, Abingdon. We await this decision with interest and very much want to know what alternative uses might be considered for the Benson Lane site.

Environment and recreation

The reopening of the playground and outdoor gym has proved very popular. The play area

and outdoor gym have been cleaned using Zoono bioremediation to reach and protect all surfaces. This will be repeated at approximately 25-day intervals until the end of the year. However, use of the playground is not risk-free and users need to read the notices and follow government guidance.

The outdoor foot-operated sanitisers have been replaced and signs posted to remind the public that the hour from 9 to 10am each day is reserved for shielding and vulnerable families.

A risk assessment has been carried out for re-opening the pavilion. All hirers are required to provide their own risk assessment specific to the activity.

Traffic and transport

The council agreed to support Bix and Assendon Parish Council's concern about speeding motorcyclists and will join with other parish councils in writing to John Howell MP and the Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police about this.

Review of strategic priorities

An officer from Oxfordshire Highways will visit the proposed site for a pedestrian crossing in The Street.

A pedestrian crossing is to be provided in North Stoke as a result of the planning permission for The Springs Golf Club.

Future meetings

The next meeting will take place on-line on Thursday 3rd October, starting at 7.30pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend council meetings. For details, please contact the clerk; contact details are at the head of this report.

Wallingford and District Stroke Club

In the circumstances of the current pandemic, please contact us first to check on meeting plans. Call Norman Goodall on 01235 834503 or Nigel Hessey on 01491 651114 and we'll be pleased to talk to you.

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