

# Crowmarsh News

Issue 457

October 2016

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 – £7.50  
3 months – £21.00  
6 months – £39.00

### 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

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

or deliver to the Editor at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

[crowmarshadvertisers@gmail.com](mailto:crowmarshadvertisers@gmail.com)

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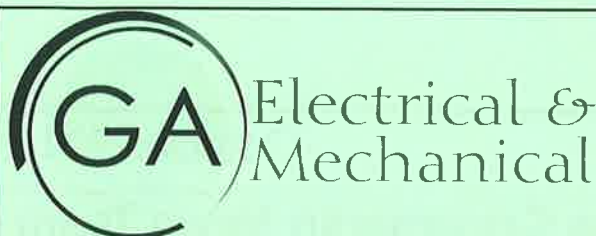


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## Neighbourhood planning

Should Crowmarsh produce a neighbourhood development plan? If so, will you help to make it happen?

A neighbourhood development plan is written by local people, 'made' or adopted by the district council, and becomes part of the development plan that helps to decide planning applications. SODC strongly supports neighbourhood planning to help local people to shape the way their communities grow and develop into the future. They offer grant funding to employ consultants to oversee the process.

However, it would require a lot of volunteer effort for up to two years and the experience of neighbouring parishes has been mixed. Planning applications are expected in the near future on several sites around Crowmarsh Gifford but it's important to understand that a neighbourhood plan must conform to national and district planning policy and is not a means to stop or limit new development. A neighbourhood plan can guide development of the right type in the right place, according to local needs.

There is information and a "toolkit" on the SODC website at [www.southoxon.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-plans](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-plans).

The parish council still needs to be convinced that a neighbourhood plan would help Crowmarsh and that there would be enough people committed to carry it through.

Contact the parish council chairman or clerk if you are prepared to take part in a neighbourhood plan group or if you have any views on it. This will be considered at the next parish council meeting.

## Useful telephone numbers

**Crime Stoppers** 0800 555 111

**Police non-emergency number** 101

## You could help the Crowmarsh News!

The *Crowmarsh News* team are looking for people to job-share the editorial and page layout duties.

**Editorial:** you will need access to a computer and must be competent with e-mail and Microsoft Word. You will need good spelling and grammar skills!

**Page layouts:** some experience of magazine or newsletter production is an advantage, but not essential. Experience of layout software is desirable – or a willingness to learn quickly.

We are a friendly group and hold meetings every couple of months. If you would like to learn more, please e-mail James and Toni on [crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com](mailto:crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com).

## Letter to the Editor

### Please be a Responsible Dog Owner

For some time I have been concerned at the amount of dog faeces that is left by dog owners when walking their dogs on footpaths and especially across fields, where for some reason it would seem there is no need to clean the faeces up.

Dog faeces is as high as third on the list of contributors to contamination and may contain parvovirus, whipworms, hookworms, roundworms, threadworms, campylobacteriosis, giardia, and coccidian. Unattended, these parasites will contaminate the water or soil, and can even cause infection in both pets and humans, especially children.

Contrary to popular belief, dog faeces is not a fertilizer and does not provide any benefit to the soil.

Cleaning up after your dog is a legal requirement under the dog fouling act where a fine of up to £1000 can be imposed. So please, be a responsible dog owner, pick up behind you and help keep our streets and countryside clean, especially from unnecessary parasites.

**A Crowmarsh resident**

# Crowmarsh Gifford School

We welcome everyone back for what should be another phenomenal year! That is our theme at the moment, being phenomenal. We are looking at what it means to truly do what it takes to be our very best, putting in the effort, hard work and determination to be successful in whatever we set out to do.

The children have settled in very well to their new classrooms and we have warmly welcomed a new class of reception children and their families. We have also already enjoyed a fantastic performance of *Alice in Wonderland*, thanks to our PTA who funded the theatre visit into our school.

Over the next few weeks we will be celebrating Harvest, holding a Prayer Space, thanks to the volunteers from our local churches, and also welcoming Dr Preece, a STEM ambassador from Science Oxford, to do activities with some of the children to celebrate World Space Week.

There is lots to be excited for over the next term and we hope that we are able to welcome many of you into our school.

Looking forward to what we hope will be a wonderful year ahead!

**Mrs Barton**  
**Headteacher**

## Crowmarsh Pre-school

It has been a busy start to the new year at Crowmarsh Pre-school and the children and parents are looking forward to an exciting term ahead and to making new friends.

We have a been listening to African music, creating collages, making soup, exploring the garden and drawing self-portraits. Our Rising 5s have been happily exploring Forest School where they have discovered where hazelnuts come from, dug holes for moles and even made a fairy den!

As we say goodbye to the summer and welcome in autumn, we will be looking at and celebrating the Harvest Festival and all things orange.

## Vacancy

A position has arisen to join our experienced and friendly team at Crowmarsh Pre-school. We are looking for an enthusiastic, passionate and motivated individual who has a passion for childcare and a desire to take on specific roles and responsibilities.

The role is part time, Mondays, Thursdays and half day Friday mornings. If you are interested in applying for the role please visit our website ([www.crowmarshpre-school.org.uk](http://www.crowmarshpre-school.org.uk)) or contact Dilys Beaumont on 07951 599623, or e-mail: [manager@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk](mailto:manager@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk)

## About Crowmarsh Pre-school

Crowmarsh Pre-school has a strong emphasis on learning through play. We are open to all children between the ages of 2 and 5 years and provide the perfect (and FUN) preparation for children getting ready to start school. We offer two sessions a day during term time. The morning session runs from 8:45 or 9am to 12pm, and the afternoon session from 12 noon to 3pm. Lunch club is from 12 to 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 07951 599623 or e-mail Vikki at [admin@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk](mailto:admin@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk)

## Lollipopper Needed!

Crowmarsh School has been successful in gaining funding from the Churchill Insurance scheme for a school crossing patrol officer at the beginning and end of the school day at the junction of Old Reading Road and The Street. If you know of anyone who may be interested in this role, please contact the school office on 836785.

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## Death of Colonel Charles Roberts

When we visit Crowmarsh Church or as we just walk past, we give little thought to the headstones in the churchyard, those who are remembered on them or what they achieved in their lives.

To the east of the churchyard is a weathered granite Celtic cross with one name carved into it, that of Colonel Charles Roberts.

Charles Roberts was born in 1843 and had two sisters, Maria and Annie. He was a first cousin of Earl Roberts VC, one of the most successful commanders of the British Army in the 19th century. Charles Roberts joined the 93rd Foot (Black Watch) in 1861, later transferring to the 73rd Foot when it became the 2nd Black Watch.

He saw service in India and Canada and fought the campaigns in Burma and Assam. He also fought in the Afghan War of 1878-80, where he fought under the command of his cousin, General Roberts, and took part in the famous march from Kabul to Kandahar.

On leaving the Army in 1905 he purchased Bridge House in Wallingford. He was a member of the Town Council, and in 1909 became a Justice of the Peace for Berkshire. Although a bachelor he was fond of children and was known to rarely pass a child in the street without stopping to talk to them. He helped form the Boy Scouts movement in Wallingford.

When war broke out in 1914 he was the main force in raising the Wallingford Volunteer Training Corps, and was its Commanding Officer until his death in 1916. In 1915 he was asked by the War Office to train young officers in a camp in the north of Scotland. He drove himself to the camp, a distance of over 600 miles, and spent three months there. But he found the training too arduous at his age of 72 and was forced to return home to Wallingford. His health was broken and he died of bronchitis on 11th April 1916.


His funeral took place on a very wet Sunday on 16th April; it was held on a Sunday to allow the members of the Volunteer Force to attend.

The roads were lined by hundreds of people from Bridge House to Crowmarsh Church. The coffin was followed by his servants from Bridge House and the Wallingford Volunteer Training Corps, a group over 200 strong.

The number of people attending the funeral was so large that they filled the church and churchyard, even spilling into the road outside the church. A volley was fired over the grave, followed by the Last Post, then all the members of the Wallingford Volunteers filed past the grave to pay their last respects.

You may wonder why a man of 72 was given such a strenuous command. His cousin, Field Marshall Roberts, who was Commander in Chief of the Army, died while inspecting Indian troops on 14th November 1914 at St Omar, at the age of 82!

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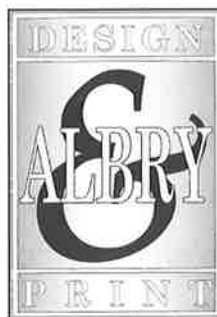
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### Services for October

Sunday 2nd	11am	Parish Communion, Harvest Festival
Sunday 9th	11am	All-Age Worship
Sunday 16th	11am	Parish Communion
Sunday 23rd	11am	All-Age Worship
Sunday 30th	11am	Parish Communion

This year, we will be celebrating our Harvest Festival on Sunday 2nd October at St Mary Magdalene (11am). At one time, the majority of Crowmarsh's population would have been farm workers, even long after our most famous resident, Jethro Tull, had invented the seed drill in 1701.

We have historic reminders of past land use in some of our road names, like Howbery Farm and Home Farm, and our village still has an important global contribution to irrigation and farming through the research work of the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology.

Nevertheless, relatively few of us have any direct connection with farming and the world of agriculture. We may enjoy singing 'We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,' but if we actually had to do it, most of us would be lost!

Our connection with the land tends to be more of a hobby for keen gardeners who enjoy the fruit of their labours on an allotment or vegetable patch. I have noticed a bumper crop of apples on the tree in the Vicarage back garden along with a bountiful supply of black-

berries along the river bank – so that's our winter crumble filling sorted.

For all of us, it is good to remember our reliance on the land and our inter-dependence on nature and the world around us - the labels on our food can be used as simple prompts for prayer, as we pray for the country of origin and that no-one has been exploited so that we have the food on our table – the Fair Trade label is a useful guide in this respect.

Whether we are directly involved in food production or not, at the heart of the Harvest celebrations is the recognition that we should all say thank you. Our Harvest Festival is an annual reminder that we offer the fruits of our labour back to God in thanks. The harvest tradition of giving to those in need underlines that the true response of gratitude is generosity – generosity towards those in need and generosity towards God who gives all things. So do not let harvest go by this year without showing that gratitude – and allowing the gratitude to spill over into generosity to others.

### Rev'd Kevin Beer

## Upcoming Events at St Mary Magdalene

### Musical concert

Glynne Stackhouse and Felicity Burrell will be providing a wonderful evening of music for our

delectation, including items such as Handel's Arrival of the Queen of Sheba from Solomon, Hummel's Sonate ou Divertissement Op.51 and Schubert's Marche Militaire in A, Op. 51 No 1.

The concert will be on Saturday 29th October, doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. We will

enjoy musical entertainment for about an hour, followed by some wonderful refreshments. Entry is free, donations towards the running of the church will be gladly accepted on the night. Please contact Margaret Foster with any queries on 836076.

### Quiz'n'chips

Our autumn Quiz'n'chips night will be Friday 11th November, doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. It's Remembrance Day, so hopefully easy to remember. More information in next month's News, but put the date in your diary. Entry forms will be available in due course, meanwhile contact Sarah Nesbitt with any queries at [sjn62@icloud.com](mailto:sjn62@icloud.com) or on 07770 930756.



## What did Wallingford Castle look like?

For several years Wallingford Museum has displayed a dramatic artist's impression of what Wallingford Castle may have looked like (until it was demolished by Cromwell's orders in 1652!).

However, much documentary research in recent years, together with various archaeological digs has provided an opportunity to re-assess the layout of the Castle.

The overall impression of the size of the castle and many of its features are still valid but the documents have revealed several differences. Here are just a few:

- the main gateways were actually nearer the bridge
- a great drawbridge crossed the moat into the inner bailey which had many more buildings than are shown here
- the Keep was a more dominating feature of the castle
- the arrangement of the water defences was more complex

A spectacular new artist's impression reflecting the current thinking has now been completed by Museum volunteer, June Strong.

Be sure to visit the Museum to see for yourself what has been revealed!

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

## 'Create a Cartoon' Night at Wallingford Museum

Following the great success of our previous event in May, this October's 'Night at the Museum' will be another FREE bookable 'Cartoon' event for children.

Here's what it's all about:

From 6.30 - 8.30pm on Friday 28th October, twenty children (suggested age range 7-11) will have a chance to try their hand at creating their own cartoon characters in Wallingford Museum with help from some local artists and inspiration from things they can see in the museum.

Steve Head, whose special '300 years of Cartoons' exhibition is on display at the museum until the end of November, will talk to the children about how cartoons began and help them to look closely at what makes a cartoon special and get their ideas fired up!

Then it's time for the children to 'have a go' for themselves with help on hand from local artists who are kindly offering their assistance. All the necessary materials for drawing and colouring will be supplied - so all that's needed is lots of lovely creativity!

(Please note: children must be accompanied by a responsible adult - at least one adult to two children - but the adults won't be prevented from joining in too!) We're all aiming to have a fun evening.

This event has been generously sponsored for the Museum by The National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS), which works to advance decorative and fine arts education and appreciation. For further details and booking, please contact Judy Dewey, 651127, preferably before 20th October!

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

## Other business

- a) Three more grit bins are needed at Park View.
- b) Storage of sandbags will be discussed at the November meeting.
- c) An allotment holder has requested taps to be provided at the allotments – to be discussed at the October meeting.
- d) Strategic spending priorities (published in *Crowmarsh News* previously) will be reviewed at the November meeting.

## Next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 6th October at North Stoke Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

There are still two vacancies on the Parish Council. If you think you might like to join the Council please talk to the chairman, the parish clerk or any councillor. It would be particularly useful to have another member from North Stoke or Mongewell.

## Sinodun Players Auditions for Panto 2017

Panto time will soon be here, and Sinodun Players are inviting people to audition for parts in *The Pied Piper* by Alan Frayn which will take place at Wallingford Corn Exchange from 13th to 28th January 2017. A number of parts will be up for grabs, from principal roles to small chorus parts. Please note that applicants should be aged over 17.

Auditions will be held on Friday 7th October at 7.30pm in The Studio, Monday 10th October at 7.30pm and at 2.30pm on Saturday 15th October, both in the Club Room. Directions will be posted in the Corn Exchange foyer. Further details are available from Julie Utleby on [julieutley@aol.com](mailto:julieutley@aol.com) or Caroline Wilkes on [caroline@chilterntherapy.com](mailto:caroline@chilterntherapy.com).

**You can hire** the Dance Studio, Sports Hall or the Astroturf at Wallingford School. Call Emma Freeman on 829762, or e-mail [FREEMANE@wallingfordschool.com](mailto:FREEMANE@wallingfordschool.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 date for the next Sales of Donated Goods are Saturdays 8th and 29th October. The sales 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. For further details of these sales, please call 01491 641384 ext 246.



## God's House at Ewelme

Dr John Goodall, FSA, Architectural Editor of *Country Life* magazine, will talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about God's House at Ewelme. The original almshouse and school still operate under the original endowment and the buildings that accommodate them remain intact.

This talk will be held on Wednesday 12th October, 7.45 for 8pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford. Visitors (£4) will be most welcome.

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## WHAT'S ON – OCTOBER 2016

### Regular events and meetings

1st & 3rd Mon	19.00	Knitting Circle	Queen's Head, Crowmarsh
Every Tuesday	19.00-21.30	Short Mat Bowls	Crowmarsh Pavilion
2nd & 4th Weds	Evenings	Crowmarsh Ladies	Telephone 201756
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

Saturday 1st	9.00-14.00	Sustainable Wallingford Swapshop	Regal Centre
Saturday 1st	20.00	Music at St Peter's: Thames Consort	St Peter's Church
Sunday 2nd	13.30	CTC 26-mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Wednesday 5th	14.00	U3A: The Civil War in Wallingford	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 6th	19.30	Crowmarsh Parish Council Meeting	North Stoke Village Hall
Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th	All day	1940s weekend	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway
Saturday 8th	10.30	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Wednesday 12th	19.45	Henley Philatelic: Mark Bailey :1958 World Expo	Bix Village Hall
Wednesday 12th	19.45	TWHAS: God's House at Ewelme	St Mary's Church, Wallingford
Saturday 15th	10.00-14.00	Benson Market and Fayre	Benson Village Hall
Sunday 16th	13.30	CTC 30-mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Wednesday 26th	19.45	Henley Philatelic: Countries bordering the Baltic Sea	Bix Village Hall
Friday 28th	18.30-20.30	'Create a Cartoon' Night at Wallingford Museum	Wallingford Museum
Saturday 29th	10.30	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th	All day	Halloween Trains	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway

For details of walks with Didcot & Wallingford Ramblers, please see  
[www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford)