

**Issue 507**

**September 2021**

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 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  
6 months — £45.00

### Leaflet distribution

For a single sheet loose insert in the *Crowmarsh News* (size up to A4), our current rate is £30 for one month. Advertisers must supply their own inserts (780 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:* Caroline Campbell and John Griffin

*Editorial support:* James and Toni Taylor, Amanda Maher, Revd Kevin Beer and Julian Park

*Advertising:* Pat Shields

*Distribution:* Frank Sadler and team

## Next month's issue

All new advertisements and all copy for the October issue of *Crowmarsh News* must reach us before our **20th September 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 Editors at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

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

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# The Crowmarsh Parish Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2035

*From the Crowmarsh Parish Neighbourhood  
Plan Steering Group*

Two more actions are needed to put our  
Neighbourhood Plan in place.

The first is the referendum, which will be held  
on Thursday 2 September at your usual Polling  
Station (Crowmarsh Gifford and North Stoke  
Village Halls). This will enable you, and  
everyone that the Plan most affects, to vote  
YES for the adoption of the Plan, or to vote NO  
if you want to continue with the current system  
of unplanned and random development driven  
by developers' needs rather than those of the  
parish and its surroundings.

The question on the ballot paper is: "Do you  
want South Oxfordshire District Council to use  
the Neighbourhood Plan for Crowmarsh to help  
it decide planning applications in the  
neighbourhood area?"

The final action required to validate the Plan, if  
there is a majority vote in favour at the  
referendum, is that a full District Council  
Meeting will also vote on adopting the Plan.  
Once this is done, we shall have our own Plan  
embedded in the District Plan and we will at  
last be in charge of the future development of  
our Parish and its three villages.

## Can you help to produce the Crowmarsh News?

If you would like to get involved in some way  
with the *Crowmarsh News*, please get in touch  
by email to [crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com](mailto:crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com) or  
pop a note through the door at 57 The Street,  
Crowmarsh Gifford (Old Gardener's Arms).

We are always looking for additional help so  
that we can spread the loads of production  
(editorial and layout) and door-to-door  
distribution as evenly as possible.

You don't need years of experience to help  
out, just enthusiasm and the ability to devote a  
few hours once in a while to what we hope will  
become your favourite village newsletter!

## Circular riverside walk

We are organising a sponsored walk on  
Saturday 18 September, which will be fun for  
families and individuals, not too long and  
includes a free ferry crossing half way round,  
with tea and cakes or savouries after the walk  
on our lawn at Newnham Farm House.

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/yndytucy> or use  
the QR code in the ad below. If you can help  
please ring Susie Ibbotson on 01491 833111.

We are raising money for Floatability, which  
launched on 7th August, a charity that offers  
river trips for people with mental or physical  
disabilities. They also offer fishing/artist trips  
and nature spotting.

The other charity is Churches Conservation  
Trust which looks after St Mary's Newnham  
Murren, St John's at Mongewell and St Peter's  
at Wallingford, plus many others. St Mary's  
has been a consecrated church for over a  
1000 years. There are services three times a  
year – the next is on 12th September at 4pm.  
Marriages and blessings can be arranged  
there. Do visit and enjoy the peace it offers.

**FUN CIRCULAR RIVERSIDE WALK**  
**FERRY CROSSING AT LITTLE STOKE /**  
**CHOLSEY MARSH**  
**VISITING & SUPPORTING HISTORIC CHURCHES AT**  
**WALLINGFORD, MONGEWELL & NEWNHAM MURREN**  
**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021**  
**From St.Mary's, Newnham Murren OX10 8BW**  
**Starting times from 10am to 4pm - Free parking**  
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## Past Times *from David Beasley*

### A lucky escape from drowning

On Tuesday evening, 2nd July 1856, a number of young men from Wallingford and Crowmarsh were swimming in the River Thames, south of Wallingford Bridge.

George Hayward was an apprentice at Thomas Field's drapery shop in the Market Place. He ventured into the deepest part of the Thames, near the Jack Ponds.

The Jack Ponds were used for breeding young pike in and they were situated in the meadow south of the bridge, about 30 yards from the river. They were filled in in 1896.

Hayward panicked and called for help. His call was immediately answered by Samuel Winter, the 15-year-old son of Moses Winter, the principal builder in the town (who at that time was building the Corn Exchange). Winter swam over to Hayward and kept him afloat, until a stronger swimmer named Bolton could reach him.

Then Bolton, Winter and two men in a punt got Hayward on board. Hayward was in a very exhausted state. Bolton was aged only 13 years old and he had showed considerable courage in going to Hayward's rescue.

By the time Hayward's rescue was complete, it had become quite dark. Fortunately, after resting for some considerable time, Hayward was able to walk home.

### St Mary the Virgin, North Stoke

During the pandemic we have had to hold services on Zoom, which has enabled housebound members of our congregation to attend services. We therefore have a Zoom service on the second Sunday in each month.

On all other Sundays there is a service in the church at 11.00. We would be delighted to see anyone at any of these services or on the Zoom Sunday service, which starts at 10.00am (ID 188 513 761).

Timothy Streatfeild



**18 – 26 September 2021**

The Wallingford Great Big Green Week starts in the Market Place in the morning of Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September with a showcase of what local people and organisations have already achieved to improve biodiversity and reduce our carbon footprint, and what we plan to do in the future.

It is not too late to join Sustainable Wallingford, Ayres House Studios, Bee Watch, Cholsey Environmental Champions, St Mary Magdalen church, Just Trading, Wallingford Town Council, Wallingford Wildlife, Friends of Wallingford and Cholsey Green Spaces and others to show our politicians what we are doing and tell them that they need to act now.

If you would like to be involved, either by taking a pitch on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> or organising your own GBGW activity during the week, please email Amanda on [acgriff9@phonecoop.coop](mailto:acgriff9@phonecoop.coop).

**Come and join us!**



### Wallingford Country Market

We are looking for new producers for the Wallingford Country Market. In particular, bakers, plant/produce, preserves and egg producers, to ensure we continue to offer our loyal customers a good range of products.

Perhaps during the lockdowns, you have honed your baking skills or discovered the pleasure of home cooking. Or if you have been growing your own plants, vegetables and fruit and are looking for a new interest, then why not join our team of producers by becoming a shareholder. This enables you to

make a little profit from your efforts. Anyone over the age of 16, male or female, can become a producer.

*The market is open at St Mary-le-More Church in the town centre each Friday morning between 9.30 a.m. – 12 noon.*

The market has been trading in the town since 1974. It was formerly known as the WI Market and the name changed to Country Markets in 2003, when the market became independent from the founding organisation, whilst maintaining the high standards of the products sold. It has always been a successful and well attended market and a valuable asset to the town.

If you would like to discuss things further, please contact Alison Broadbridge (bakery) [alisonbroadbridge@gmail.com](mailto:alisonbroadbridge@gmail.com) or Sandra Halstead (gardening) [s.halstead2@btinternet.com](mailto:s.halstead2@btinternet.com) or come and visit the market one Friday morning and speak with Alison or Sandra then.

If you look at the Country Markets Ltd website, it will give you all the information you need about the organisation: [www.country-markets.co.uk](http://www.country-markets.co.uk).

Do come and join us, we are a friendly and welcoming group.

*Wallingford Country Market Committee*

## **Dog fouling — a message from SODC's waste team**

Parish councils have reported that there is a growing dog fouling problem across our districts.

Although there are many benefits that come with owning a dog (especially during lockdown), there are also responsibilities. These include cleaning up after your dog.

Please be aware that it is an offence not to clean up after your dog or leave used dog waste bags anywhere other than in an appropriate bin. Under the Dog Fouling of Land Act 1996, allowing your dog to foul can result in an on-the-spot fixed penalty notice of £50 and incorrect disposal of dog waste bags (e.g. not putting them in the bin) can result in an £80 fixed penalty notice. If

finer are not paid, cases can be escalated to court resulting in fines of up to £1000.

There are some council-owned litter bins within your parish. These can be used for both litter and dog waste bags – you no longer need to find a special dog waste bin as litter bin waste is incinerated. You can also put dog waste bags in your black general waste wheelie bin, as this waste is also incinerated. So if you cannot find a public bin or bins are full, please take it home.

We know that most residents take a lot of pride in their local area and the district and parish councils encourage everybody to take extra steps to keep your parish clean and tidy.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the team on 01235422146 or email [waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk)

*Waste and Recycling team, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils*

## **Henley & District Stamp Club**

We understand that many people have taken up stamp collecting or returned to their old school collections during lockdown. If you are one of these 'new collectors' or have been collecting for longer, we would be delighted to see you at our meetings. Belonging to a stamp club makes the hobby more interesting and fun, covering all philatelic subjects: stamps, covers (envelopes), postmarks and postcards.

We will be meeting in the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month from September, but the day has yet to be confirmed: it will be on our website. We hope to see you, so that you enjoy your collecting even more!

Our first meeting will be 'Latest Acquisitions' and the second a guest speaker. Meetings are held at Bix Village Hall at 7.45 p.m. Visitors and new members are welcome. Further details can be obtained by phoning 01491 681739 or you can look on our website [www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk](http://www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk).



**Team Vicar: The Revd Kevin Beer**  
The Vicarage, 34 Thames Mead,  
Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EY  
Tel: 01491 599873 (day off Monday)  
Email: [teamvicar@wallingfordcofe.org.uk](mailto:teamvicar@wallingfordcofe.org.uk)  
Blog: [revkevbeer.blogspot.co.uk](http://revkevbeer.blogspot.co.uk)

## **St Mary Magdalene's Church**

### **Crowmarsh Gifford**

**September services** (at St Mary Magdalene's unless otherwise stated):

Sunday 5th	11am	"Back to School" Family Service at St Mary Magdalene's
Saturday 11th	10.30-12.30	Crowmarsh Community Café at the Village Hall
Sunday 12th	11am	Parish Communion (Education Sunday)
Sunday 12th	4pm	Evening Service at St Mary's, Newnham Murren
Sunday 22nd	11am	Family Communion (Livestreamed)
Saturday 18th	10am-4pm	Riverside walk from St Mary's, Newnham Murren (see p.)
Sunday 19th	10am	Team Communion with Bishop Gavin at St Mary-le-More, Wallingford
Sunday 26th	11am	Family Communion at St Mary Magdalene's

## **The Vicar writes...**

I hope you have been able to have a summer break and a time for rest, relaxation and fun – what we call “recreation” comes from “RE-Creation”, i.e. not just refreshment but a real sense of renewal, making us ready to start again, to reboot after the lockdown that has affected our lives in so many ways.

Our lives have lots of beginnings and endings, and for many people, particularly the young and their parents and teachers, September is the beginning of a new academic year, new school or college or new job. This can be a time of joyful anticipation and excitement and also of anxiety, but we have the assurance of God, the God of new beginnings, that He is with us in and through everything and will give us enough strength to cope with whatever comes our way, and He is also the first to rejoice with us, wanting us to enjoy life in all its fullness (John 10:10).

One of the things I've missed is to be able to go into our schools, not least our church primary and pre-schools, to meet the children and lead a weekly assembly or “collective worship”.

Our ministry team have been waiting to launch a new "Open the Book" group who go into schools to engage the children in re-enactments of Bible Stories. We also hope that children and families will also feel safe and very welcome in our church services, and it is wonderful to be able to host Christenings/Baptisms again. Please contact me to book these.

As well as our autumn evening service at St Mary's Newnham Murren on Sunday 12th, there is also the opportunity on the following Saturday 18th to enjoy a riverside walk and a river crossing courtesy of Floatability. Please reserve your places at <https://tinyurl.com/yndytucy> or call 833111.

**Blessings,**

**Rev Kev**



## Wallingford Museum news

We are delighted that the museum is now open for the season, with real live visitors coming in! Entry is free. Please check the web site for opening times. Our amazing new exhibit, the new Wallingford Castle model, is on display.

### **Wallingford guided historical town walks**

*Every summer Saturday starting at 11am from under the Town Hall*

These popular town walks, led by expert guides from The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society, will be on offer throughout the summer until the end of September. There is no need to book these walks - just meet the guide who will be standing under the Town Hall. Payment (**£10 per adult, children free**) should be made to the guide please, and will help support the work of the volunteer-run Wallingford Museum.

The walks last about 90 mins and will take you all around the town and its backstreets, revealing the story of the town's history from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present day!

### **Agatha Christie Day**

Saturday 11 September will be a special at Wallingford Museum.



In the Museum - FREE!

- You can visit our Agatha Christie exhibition in the museum
- Have a go at a special Agatha Christie quiz
- See all the other lovely exhibits, including the new model of Wallingford Castle.

You can also join in one of our special guided Agatha Christie walks at 10.30, 12.00, 2.30, 4.00: each starting from the Museum.

Our expert guides will take you round the town to 'Discover Wallingford as Agatha Christie would have known it'.

The walks will begin from Wallingford Museum in the High Street and last about an hour.

Reserve a place via the museum website, or just turn up on the day. Please note however that places are limited to 15 per walk. Please pay at the museum on the day. £10 per adult, children free. [www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk)

You can also visit Agatha Christie's grave in Cholsey. St Mary's Church, Cholsey, is where Agatha Christie worshipped and where she chose to be buried in the churchyard. The church will be open during the day and you can meet a guide there who will be able to answer any questions about her connections with Cholsey.

It is a short drive or bus ride from Wallingford, or a 2½ mile country walk (guiding leaflets are available in the Museum).

### **Museum bookshop**

We have an excellent selection of good second-hand books (both fiction and non-fiction) at sensible prices. We look forward to seeing you – it's free to browse!

## The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society

Zoom talks for TWHAS members, or possibly a return to meeting in St Mary's Church.

8 Sept (Weds) Andy Hood: "Archaeological investigation at the Cross Keys, Wallingford"

Excavations in advance of a residential development revealed part of the Burh western defensive ditch, as well as a later substantial chalk bank. Other features included a further probable ditch to the west, as well as pits and gullies, some of which appeared to be relatively early. Somewhat unexpectedly, the presumed defensive ditch terminated within the site, which suggested that the military earthworks in this area are more complex than previously thought.

Please see the website for further details:

<https://www.twhas.org.uk/meetings-programme.html>

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the 1990s, the number of people who have been infected with HIV has increased in the United States, and the number of people who have died of AIDS has increased. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that about 1 million people in the United States are living with HIV, and about 30,000 people die of AIDS each year. The CDC also estimates that about 100,000 people in the United States are living with AIDS, and about 10,000 people die of AIDS each year. The CDC also estimates that about 100,000 people in the United States are living with AIDS, and about 10,000 people die of AIDS each year.

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Technical note



Figure 1 consists of five small grayscale images arranged horizontally, labeled 1 through 5. Each image shows a different stage of a plant's growth or development. Image 1 shows a small, dark, elongated structure. Image 2 shows a slightly larger, more developed structure. Image 3 shows a structure with a more complex, branching appearance. Image 4 shows a structure with a more pronounced, elongated form. Image 5 shows a structure with a more complex, branching appearance, similar to Image 3 but with different details.

Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
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Thanks, [Liam](#)

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# What's on at the Corn Exchange, September 2021

## Cinema

All regular performances start at 7:30pm, unless stated otherwise.

Tickets are £8 for adults and £5 for under-15s, unless stated otherwise.

The social distancing algorithm in place at the Box Office, with only groups of up to 6 from allowed groups able to book seats together, was reviewed following the government announcement on the 16th August.

From 25 August, after a survey of patrons, the Corn Exchange is continuing to keep some form of distancing for all but three events (the Bond film, A Daughter's A Daughter and Arthur Smith's SYD). Seating arrangements will be reviewed again in September. We're grateful to patrons for continuing to wear a mask, especially when moving around the theatre.

- Wednesday, 1st September, 2:30pm and 7:30pm Jungle Cruise (12A)
- Thursday, 2nd September, 2:30pm Jungle Cruise (12A)
- Sunday, 5th September, 7:30pm Janine Jansen: Falling for Stradivari (U)
- Monday, 6th September, 7:30pm The Last Bus (12A)
- Tuesday, 7th September, 7:30pm The Last Bus (12A)
- Wednesday, 8th September, 7:30pm The Last Bus (12A)
- Thursday, 9th September, 7:30pm The Last Bus (12A)
- Monday, 27th September, 7:30pm The Courier (12A)
- Wednesday, 29th September, 7:30pm The Courier (12A)
- Thursday, 30th September, 7:30pm No Time To Die – James Bond (runs until Thursday, 14th October)

## Live screenings

Sunday, 26th September, 7:30pm

### ***Dangerous Liaisons***

Sex. Power. Cruelty. Deceit. Two bored aristocrats spin a web of heartbreak in 18th Century France. It may seem like a game, but

lives will be ruined and love irrevocably lost. Northern Ballet's bodice-ripping retelling of Laclos' scandalous novel, is performed with minimal set and full costumes. The ballet is set to Vivaldi's The Four Seasons, played by Northern Ballet Sinfonia. Contains scenes of a sexual nature and sexual violence including a rape scene. Age guidance: 12+ All Tickets £8

Tuesday, 28th September, 7:30pm

### ***Romeo and Juliet***

Romeo and Juliet risk everything to be together. In defiance of their feuding families, they chase a future of joy and passion as violence erupts around them. This bold new film brings to life the remarkable backstage spaces of the National Theatre in which desire, dreams and destiny collide, to make Shakespeare's romantic tragedy sing in an entirely new way. Jessie Buckley (Wild Rose, Judy) and Josh O'Connor (The Crown, God's Own Country) play Juliet and Romeo. The award-winning cast includes Tamsin Greig, Fisayo Akinade, Adrian Lester, Lucian Msamati, Deborah Findlay. All Tickets £10

## Live theatre

Saturday, 4th September, 7:30pm

### ***Not The Bunkfest***

Featuring the Outliers, Pete Orton and friends and the Stones Project. Tickets free but must be booked beforehand. Bucket for donations to the Corn Exchange and the 2022 Bunkfest fund.

Friday, 10th September, 7:45pm

### ***Arthur Smith is SYD***

Arthur Smith's show SYD follows a highly successful season at Soho Theatre and a sell-out and critical acclaimed run at the Edinburgh Fringe. Packed with big gags, hilarious stories and poignant reflections about an ordinary man who lived through extraordinary times. Arthur, accompanied by the mellifluous Kirsty Newton, tells the story of his own father. Tickets £15 (with some adult humour)

Wednesday, 22nd September to Saturday, 25th September, 7:45pm

Sinodun Players present

### ***A Daughter's a Daughter***

This is an intense family drama published by Agatha Christie under the name Mary

Westmacott, and directed by Lucy Pitman-Wallace. It bubbles with suppressed emotion and has the extra frisson of perhaps being inspired by Christie's difficult relationship with her own daughter, Rosalind. Tickets £12 (adults) and £8 (under-16s)

### Coming soon

Wednesday, 27th October, 7:45pm

#### **Cliff Richard: The Great 80 Tour**

Broadcast live from the Royal Albert Hall, London. Sir Cliff's 80th birthday tour (rescheduled from 2020) broadcast live from the Royal Albert Hall. Featuring a selection of his greatest hits, the show is sure to have you dancing in the aisles (government regulations permitting!). All Tickets £10

Saturday, 20th November, 7:45pm

#### **Under Milk Wood**

Performed solo by Guy Masterson, celebrating a day in the life of 'Llareggub' – a small sea town somewhere in Wales – all 69 ebullient inhabitants in Dylan Thomas's timeless masterpiece are assiduously recreated in an amazing feat of memory and virtuosity.

Complemented by a stunning original soundscape, it's bawdy and beautiful, sad and sensual and, through the music of language, leaves indelible, unforgettable images of humanity. All Tickets £15

Thursday, 25th to Saturday 27th November, 2:30pm (Saturday) and 7:30pm (all evenings)

#### **This is Jess**

A new musical – with a twist...

Billing itself as 'half gig, half musical theatre, and half stand-up comedy' (*Jess is better at geography than maths!*), the one-woman, two-act show follows a year in the life of local girl, Jess. But it isn't just any year: this is the year she meets Gino Corsetti, and a roller-coaster romance ensues.

You're certain to fall in love with the hapless Jess (*think Bridget Jones, without the celebrity glamour and fake snow!*) and leave the theatre singing any of the 16-plus strong numbers from this whimsical, uplifting and touching musical. Tickets £14 (Adults) £12 (Under-18s).

## The war story of Winnie-the-Pooh illustrator E H Shepard

Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum (SOFO) will hold an online talk by James Campbell and a live Q&A session through their website on Tuesday 14 September at 7pm on the life and Great War experiences of E H Shepard.

Ernest Shepard is best known for delighting generations of children with his charming illustrations for A A Milne's Winnie the Pooh and later editions of Kenneth Grahame's *Wind in the Willows* in the 1930s.

But before he found fame bringing Pooh, Piglet and Tigger to life, he used his artistic talent to document his time in the trenches during the First World War, through a series of humorous caricatures and detailed sketches.

James Campbell explores Ernest Shepard's life and war experiences, illustrated with sketches and drawings from the artist's early career as a cartoonist right through his military service as an artillery officer on the Western and Italian Fronts. Discover how Shepard was recruited by the Intelligence Corps because of his skills, and how he would be awarded the Military Cross and a mention in dispatches for gallantry in the field.

No pre-registration or digital tickets are needed to watch the talk, but viewers are encouraged to donate to Oxfordshire's only dedicated military museum. Donations allow SOFO to tell more stories through events like this, as well as supporting the museum's work in preserving and presenting the county's military heritage and the history of all those affected by conflict in the region, soldier or civilian.

Watch the talk at: [www.sofo.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.sofo.org.uk/whats-on/)



(Continued on page 13)



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James Campbell lives in Oxford and has worked for sustainability and environmental organisations for over twenty years. He is married to E H Shepard's great-granddaughter and has had oversight of E H Shepard's artistic and literary estate since 2010.

### **About the Soldiers of Oxfordshire (SOFO) Museum**

The SOFO Museum opened in summer 2014. It is in the beautiful gardens in the grounds of The Oxfordshire Museum and Woodstock Library, on the doorstep of Blenheim Palace.

More than a local military museum, SOFO is a museum that everyone can enjoy. We tell stories of how conflict has affected the county and its people, from soldiers serving on the front lines, to ordinary people living on the Home Front.

On top of a range of ever-changing displays and events, our permanent exhibits explore topics that you'll find surprising and moving in equal measure, such as raw accounts of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen, from both camp survivors and Oxfordshire soldiers.

Battles of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry puts you on-board a Horsa Glider as it prepares to land in Normandy in the early hours of D-Day 1944, while Secret War explores the world of spies and espionage and lets you try your hand at sending and decoding secret messages.

SOFO holds a collection of over 3,500 objects

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Phone Chris Strange on 07711 904252, or email [chrisstrange47@gmail.com](mailto:chrisstrange47@gmail.com)

and 7,500 archive items from two county regiments, the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars (QOOH) and the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. These are our starting point for reflecting on the county's rich and diverse military heritage.

Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum,  
Park Street, Woodstock OX20 1SN

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

[frontofhouse@sofo.org.uk](mailto:frontofhouse@sofo.org.uk) 01993 810 210

### ***John Howell MP writes...***

As we learn to live with COVID-19, some of life's most important opportunities and pleasures are likely to be increasingly dependent on vaccination. This is true in relation to both activities at home and abroad.

Already other countries have a requirement that people must have had two doses of a vaccine as a condition of quarantine free travel. At home there are activities in crowded venues that people are keen to get back to. Being able to go to a nightclub is one that has been very much in the media spotlight.

I know that some people question why others are so keen to go to such venues, but I appreciate that those who enjoy clubbing and have been denied the opportunity for so long want to do so. It is generally younger people who like to go to such places, and I think that they have suffered greatly with lockdown and restrictions.

I do not want to see nightclubs and other venues closed again but it does mean that measures need to be in place to help ensure that they are as safe as possible. An NHS Covid Pass which shows proof of vaccination, a recent negative test or natural immunity – as a means of entry is therefore sensible.

I fully appreciate concerns being raised over this being reduced to proof of vaccination and expect that this particular debate will be an important one in coming weeks.

Similarly, I appreciate concern at extending the vaccination to younger people especially when it was previously not advised. However, research into vaccines is ongoing and all new data is used to inform the Government on various aspects of immunisation strategy.

Another key issue is of course climate change and with COP26 drawing ever closer our minds are rightly drawn to focus on this. The report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) just published, leaves us in no doubt of the urgency of this. As Alok Sharma, the government's climate co-ordinator said, the report is a stark warning about the need to cut emissions. I agree that this is a priority and am pleased that the UK was the first country in the G7 to legislate to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

I share the desire to get to net zero sooner and Government has to ensure that what is put into regulation is achievable for everyone. It has already announced the interim target of reducing emissions by 68 per cent from 1990 levels by 2030. This target is faster than any other major economy. A cross-community consensus will be required to ensure the UK achieves a transition that works for all.

As well as Government measures on this we all need to do what we can to make our own contribution by making what changes we can to our own lifestyles.

Although Parliament is currently in recess, my office remains open. If you have an issue that you would like to raise with me, if possible please email [john.howell.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:john.howell.mp@parliament.uk).

If you cannot email, you can still write to me at the House of Commons, London, SW1 0AA or at PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD.

*John Howell MP*

*House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA*

(See page 4 for more on Great Big Green Week)

### **To book Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall for birthday parties and events**

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## Parish Council notes

Crowmarsh Parish Council met at Crowmarsh Village Hall on Thursday 5th August with social distancing and ventilation. Three members of the public attended and Dr Nick Robins reported on the Neighbourhood Plan (see p.3).

### Present

Cllrs John Griffin (Chair), Liz Ryall, Stephen Sherbourne, Fleur Stevenson, David Topliss and Andrew Johnson, District Cllrs Andrea Powell and Sue Cooper, Clerk Sue Rance and Finance Officer Yvonne Peet.

### Matters brought forward

The problem of motorcycle speeding and noise on the A4074 and connected roads appears to have worsened, and it is a safety issue as well as a noise nuisance, but the police have not responded so far.

Cllr Sherbourne will convene a small sub-group, including Mr Nick McGregor and Mr Nick Sumner, who both attended and spoke at the meeting, to draft a letter to be sent from Crowmarsh Parish Council to the Police and Crime Commissioner, copied to District and County Councillors, other parish councils along the main roads, John Howell MP and the H Café where the motorcyclists meet.

The Bell Inn seems in very poor condition and has been boarded up. Cllr Sherbourne will draft a letter for the chairman's signature, asking the CEO of Greene King what their plans are for the property.

Correction to the notes in the last issue: it has been ascertained that the Carmel College planning application has not lapsed.

It has so far not been possible to find a suitable site for a defibrillator in Mongewell.

Cllr Powell has discussed the development at The Springs with the planning officer and agreed that condition 17 (safe pedestrian access) should not be discharged until a road safety audit has been completed and a scheme approved by OCC Highways. The parish council wishes to see a proper crossing to link to the pavement along Wallingford Road, but the developers only propose a dropped kerb. This safety issue will be reported to OCC Councillor Felix Bloomfield.

## Grass cutting

The standard of grass cutting has not been satisfactory this year, and it was agreed that Mr Chris Strange could do a better job on the recreation ground if we can buy a suitable mower. The council agreed to buy one for £7,500, leaving the current contractors to cut the verges and open spaces for the remainder of this year. We will seek quotes from alternative contractors for next year.

## Horse chestnut tree

Residents had expressed strong support for carrying out surgery on the tree at the end of Thames Mead in order to make it safe and extend its life. The chairman will obtain quotes for this work.

## Strategic priorities

A meeting has been arranged with Highways Officer Lee Turner and County Councillor Felix Bloomfield to resolve the parking problems at Stephens Field and to progress proposed pedestrian crossings.

Cllr Griffin is trying to arrange a site visit by OCC officers to discuss improvements to Watery Lane as a strategic bridleway linking Wallingford to the Ridgeway and much used by local people.

## County Council matters

County Cllr Felix Bloomfield was not present but arrangements were discussed to meet with Oxfordshire Highways officers later in the month to discuss pedestrian crossings, parking and traffic management.

## District Council matters

COVID-19 grant payments processed through the District council since April 2020 total £42.8m. The Council's finance team checks for fraud. With case numbers increasing, more people are having to self-isolate because of a positive diagnosis or close contact with someone who has tested positive.

Councillors are allocated £5,000 each for community projects in their ward. Not-for-profit organisations can apply for grants from £250 up to £5,000 for projects that will bring positive outcomes for local residents. Details of how to apply are on the SODC website but please discuss applications with councillors first.

Biffa, the council's waste contractor, still has staffing difficulties, which have led to serious disruptions to waste and recycling collections. The main problem is a shortage of HGV drivers and increasing numbers of staff who have been advised to self-isolate. This is national problem. The staff have been working weekends to try and catch up, but it has meant that garden waste collections were suspended during August. Subscribers will still receive the contract number of collections (20 per year), but normally they expect more: there will be no refunds.

*If any of your waste was not collected last week, or if bins are missed, firstly leave the bins out for 3 days after your usual bin day. If still not collected please bring the bins back in and put them out again for your next regular collection. Exceptionally, if we cannot collect your black bin rubbish because of disruption, you can leave up to three black sacks out the next time. You can always put out additional recycling and food waste. SODC is extremely sorry for the inconvenience and we are working hard to try and resolve these issues.*

SODC is supporting a Thames River clean-up day on Sunday 26 September, to coincide with World Rivers Day. If you want to get involved, email [communications@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:communications@southandvale.gov.uk).

Please give your views on the Oxfordshire 2050 plan [www.oxfordshireopenthought.org](http://www.oxfordshireopenthought.org) (until 8 October) and the Ox-Cam Arc spatial framework [www.gov.uk/government/consultations/creating-a-vision-for-the-oxford-cambridge-arc](http://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/creating-a-vision-for-the-oxford-cambridge-arc) (until 12 October).

## Planning

### Decisions by SODC

**P21/S2302/A** The Springs Golf Club, Wallingford Road, North Stoke OX10 6BE. Application for the siting of two new main entrance signs and new brick walling. Advertisement consent granted.

**P21/S2014/LDP** Mere Cottage, Mongewell Park OX10 8DA. Provision of a mobile home within curtilage of dwelling. Certificate of lawful use or development granted.

### Consultations

**P21/S3227/HH** 6 Shuttleworth Close, Mongewell OX10 8FS. Single-storey



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**Please use the parish website for the latest on many local matters:**  
**[www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk](http://www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk)**

Edwardian design conservatory to the rear of the property. Recommend approval.

[P21/S3101/HH](#) The Old Farmhouse, The Street, North Stoke OX10 6BL. Proposed oak framed incidental outbuilding following demolition of existing outbuilding. (Additional information received 21-07-21). Recommend approval.

[P21/S2954/FUL](#) The Springs Golf Club, Wallingford Road, North Stoke OX10 6BE. Two new brick walls to hold new entrance signs for which an advertisement application has been approved (P21/S2302/A). Recommend approval.

[P21/S2951/FUL](#) Stallion Cottage, Mongewell Park Farm Wallingford Road Mongewell OX10 8DY. Change of use to allow extension of Stallion Cottage (residential) into adjoining existing building and related alteration. (Farm office retained). Recommend approval.

### ***Neighbourhood plan***

The referendum will be held on Thursday 2 September. A leaflet for every house would be delivered during August.

### **Finance**

A grant of £200 was made to Sue Ryder. The council renewed its subscription to the Chiltern Society. Other payments included £1512.72 to Eibe for repairs to the zip wire, £1,722.24 to SODC for dog bin emptying for April – June and £762 for grass cutting in June.

Staff salaries were reviewed and a 2.5% increase was agreed, backdated to June 2021. An additional payment of £300 was agreed to Mr Chris Strange for the extra work he has carried out, including additional cleaning at the playground and pavilion due to COVID-19.

The council agreed that the procedure if an urgent payment needs to be made between meetings will include details first being circulated by email to all councillors and the response minuted at the next parish council meeting. The necessary quorum for a decision to be made is one-third of the whole number of councillors, subject to a minimum of three, which means four councillors in our case.

### **Environment and recreation**

Cllr Johnson reported that the zip wire has been repaired under warranty and further

repairs to the moving parts have been carried out. Mr Strange is getting quotes for repairing damage to the netball court caused by the cherry tree roots.

A car park height restriction barrier has now been installed. WiFi has been installed in the pavilion. CCTV is to be installed during the week beginning 13th September. The cameras are of a high specification and should work well even in low level light. The CCTV policy has been drafted and will be circulated for approval at the September meeting.

It is hoped to hold a celebration at the Recreation Ground in June 2022 when Her Majesty the Queen will celebrate her Platinum Jubilee. The chairman will also attend a meeting with Wallingford Town Council on 21 August to plan tree planting as part of the Queen's Green Canopy.

### **Traffic and transport**

Cllrs Sherbourne and Ryall will reconvene the Traffic and Transport Committee and invite new members, including co-optees, as several have left the council. Amanda Griffin will be included as our Parish Transport Rep: she had circulated her report from the county parish transport representatives' meeting on 6 July.

The future viability of some bus services is in doubt unless more people use them.

### **Next meeting**

The Neighbourhood Plan referendum will be held on Thursday 2 September, so the next parish council meeting will be at North Stoke Village Hall on Thursday 9th September, starting at 7.30pm. Please contact the parish clerk if you would like to attend.

### **Vacancies**

The parish council has two vacancies and would welcome expressions of interest, particularly from Mongewell and North Stoke: please contact the parish clerk.

Parish Clerk: Mrs Sue Rance, 2 Home Farm, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EL, email [crowmarshparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:crowmarshparishclerk@gmail.com).

Chairman: John Griffin, 29 Thames Mead, email [johnggriffin@phonecoop.coop](mailto:johnggriffin@phonecoop.coop)

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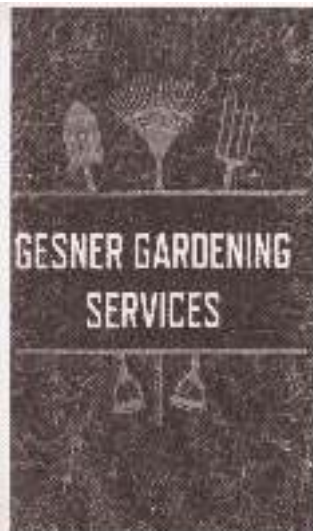
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As a result, the following were identified as the six priority areas of research:

<sup>a</sup>Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Marriage, Divorce, Remarriage in the United States*, Washington, D.C., 1983.

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## WHAT'S ON — SEPTEMBER 2021

### Regular events and meetings

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Every Saturday	10.00–12.00	WAGS Store open	Centre 70, Wallingford
Most Saturdays	10.00–12.00	Local Producers' Market	Centre 70, Wallingford
Every Sunday	11.00 onwards	Parish Communion (Family service on the first Sunday of the month)	St Mary Magdalene's Church, Crowmarsh
Thursdays	16.30 start	Cycling UK rides — see <a href="http://www.ctcwallingford.org.uk">www.ctcwallingford.org.uk</a>	Wallingford Market Place

### This month

Wednesday 1st	14.00 onwards	U3A: The P&O Story	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 2nd	07.00–22.00	Neighbourhood Plan referendum	Crowmarsh and North Stoke Village Halls
Wednesday 8th	20.00 onwards	TWHAS talk: Archaeological investigation at the Cross Keys	St Mary-le-More Church, Wallingford or online
Thursday 9th	19.30 onwards	Crowmarsh Parish Council Meeting	North Stoke Village Hall
Saturday 11th	10.30–12.30	Crowmarsh Community Café	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Saturday 11th	All day	Agatha Christie Day (see p.7)	Wallingford Museum etc.
Sunday 12th	16.00 onwards	Evening service	St Mary's, Newnham Murren
Saturday 18th	09.30–12.30	Great Big Green Week event	Market Place, Wallingford
Saturday 18th	10.00–16.00	Riverside walk for Floatability and Churches Conservation Trust (p.3)	St Mary's, Newnham Murren
Saturday 18th	20.00 onwards	Music: Brompton String Quartet <a href="http://www.musicatstpeterswallingford.org.uk">www.musicatstpeterswallingford.org.uk</a>	St Mary-le-More Church, Wallingford

### October

Saturday 2nd	20.00 onwards	Music: The Thames Consort <a href="http://www.musicatstpeterswallingford.org.uk">www.musicatstpeterswallingford.org.uk</a>	Dorchester Abbey
Thursday 7th	19.30 onwards	Crowmarsh Parish Council Meeting	Crowmarsh Village Hall

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