

# Crowmarsh News

Issue 451 April 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 May issue of *Crowmarsh News* must reach us before our 20th April deadline.

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

crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com

or deliver to the Editor at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

crowmarshadvertisers@gmail.com

or deliver to The Old School, Benson Lane.

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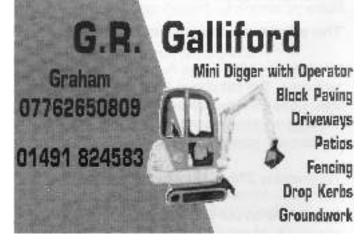
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#### The Thames Run

Wallingford 10K & 5K Thames Run, Sunday 22nd May 10am Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School.

This is the 9th year of the 10k run and the 2nd year of the 5k run which attract over 400 runners, their families and friends from the local area as well as from across Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire. This year we have lowered the 5k age to 14 years, to encourage more young people to take part.

The Thames Run is a multi-terrain route along local footpaths and the banks of the River Thames, and back through the historic market town of Wallingford. Runners complete one circuit of the route for the 5k event and two circuits for the 10k.

The Wallingford 5k and 10k Thames Run is run by volunteers to raise money for two local Oxfordshire charities. This year we are proud to support Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School PTA and Style Acre, a charity committed to supporting the needs of people with learning disabilities in our community.

The start and finish point for this event is Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School. Refreshments and entertainment will be available at the end of the race for all to enjoy.

Entries are now open on our website www.thamesrun.co.uk and you can follow us on our Facebook page Wallingford Thames Run 10k.

We look forward to seeing you there!

# Street Collection Raises an Amazing Sum

During a street collection in Wallingford on 11th March, Sinodun Inner Wheel Club raised £1,528.05 for Brain Tumour Research.

We thank everyone reading this article who donated to this wonderful cause.

Eira E Hoare President Inner Wheel Club of Sinodun

# **Wallingford Country Market**

Wallingford Country Market is held at the Regal Centre every Friday, from 8.30 to 11.15am.

To celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday, come and visit us on Friday 15th April when a free raffle ticket will be given to each customer visiting the market with the opportunity to win 'A Birthday Basket Fit for a Queen', containing a selection of market goodies. Second and third prizes are £15 and £10 Market Gift Vouchers. The draw will take place at 11am.

All our usual home-baked, home-grown, home-crafted items will be on sale, as well as honey, preserves and eggs. We look forward to seeing you!

All enquires to our Market Manager, please, on 01865 890649.



#### **Swimathon 2016**

Swimathon 2016 will be held on Saturday 9th April 2 to 4pm at Radley College Sports Centre. Volunteers, staff and supporters of John Masefield House will attempt to swim a combined marathon distance – and you are invited to join them! Whether you swim one length or one mile, it will help us achieve our goal. All sponsorship and donations will go towards the JMH dining patio appeal.

For further details or a sponsorship form please contact: David Williams on 01865 340324or e-mail: david.williams@leonard-cheshire.org

John Masefield House is at Burcot Brook, Nr. Abingdon, OX14 3DP

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

phone Chris Strange on 07711 904252, or

e-mail chrisstrange47@gmail.com

#### **Crowmarsh Pre-school**

In Term 5, (April and May) we welcome four more children to our village pre-school and reintroduce our weekly Rising 5s sessions, to help prepare children who will be transferring to school in September. These sessions are enjoyable for children and Key Persons, as they share some focussed time together, covering all areas of learning and culminating in school visits.

Our colour week this term is purple, when the children will be experimenting how to make purple, and investigating all things purple! We will be thinking about St George and following the children's interests stimulated by this – we have castles, dragons and knight dressing-up outfits ready to hand! Finally this month, we will be preparing for celebrating May Day.

Our Open Morning is Tuesday 19th April when we welcome visitors to Pre-school between 9.30 to 10.30am. This is a normal morning session, so please do come and see us as we are.

A huge thank you to those in the community who have volunteered prizes for the raffle and auction to be held at our Village Quiz on Saturday 14th May. You will soon see signs going up around the village, tickets being sold at the village store and raffle ticket sales coming to your doors.

As we are a charity, the children's fees only cover the cost of staff and the rent, so we are very grateful for all your donations which allow us to buy resources and equipment.

Our Outstanding 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 have a look at our website (www.crow-marshpre-school.org.uk/), call our Manager, Dilys Beaumont, for a chat on 07951 599 623 or e-mail Vikki at admissions@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk

# JR Public Open Day – Celebrating Biomedical Research

The NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre is holding a public open day "Celebrating Biomedical Research in Oxford" on Thursday 21st April from midday to 5pm at the John Radcliffe Hospital. The event will be held at Tingewick Hall in the Academic Block, and will include interactive stands and lectures about the work of the Oxford BRC, which funds medical research across areas including cancer, diabetes, stroke and genetics.

#### Open Day programme

Tour booking is essential; please telephone 01865 743341

11.30 – 12.00 Tour behind the scenes of AVIC – Acute Vascular Imaging Centre. See how we research heart attack and stroke in patients. The tour will commence from the Main JR Reception.

12.00 – 17.00 Main exhibition, Tingewick Hall. Come and see over 30 interactive stands demonstrating biomedical research taking place in Oxford. Find out about the latest research techniques and meet doctors, scientists and nurses.

12.45 – 13.45 Debate, "Good to share? Data, research, privacy and the NHS", in the Lecture Theatre 2, Academic Block, JR. A panel-led debate on the existing but often challenging issues around mass sharing of patient data to support research and improve patient care. The audience will be encouraged to ask questions in this mediated debate, which will feature Professor Martin Landray, Deputy Director of the University of Oxford's Big Data Institute; Carol Moore, Head of Projects, Healthwatch Oxfordshire; Kerrie Woods, Programme Lead for the Oxford NHS Genomic Medicine Centre; and Frederica Lucivero, Marie Curie Research Fellow, King's

College London.

14.00 – 14.30 Keynote speeches at Tingewick Hall, to include Dr Tony Berendt, Medical Director, Oxford University Hospitals; Professor Keith Channon, Director NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre: and Dr Caroline Hargrove, Technical Director at McLaren Applied Technologies. They will talk about how data analysis and simulation tools for motorsport are now driving innovation in surgery and patient care.

15.00 – 15.30 Public Lecture. Lecture Theatre 2, Tingewick Hall. Professor Adrian Harris, University of Oxford Department of Oncology, will talk about 'New ways to Treat Cancer'.

15.45 – 16.15 Public Lecture, Lecture Theatre 2. Tingewick Hall, Dr Matthew Snape, Jenner Investigator and Oxford BRC Consultant in General Paediatrics and Vaccinology, Department of Paediatrics, University of Oxford, will talk about 'Meningitis Vaccines – can we do more?'

#### Please note:

The deadline for the May issue of Crowmarsh News is Wednesday, 20th April.

#### To book North Stoke Village Hall

contact Nikki Arnfeld - 839736, 07969 788766, or narnfeld@yahoo.co.uk or Stuart Soames

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#### The 1908 Blizzard

At the beginning of March, we had a very light fall of snow which thawed within a few minutes, although the north had more snow that only lasted a few days. But on Saturday 26th April 1908, the UK was hit by a blizzard. It was very severe, particularly in the south of England, and is still the largest fall of snow south of the Thames ever registered for April.

In 24 hours, over 20 inches of snow fell. Most of the Channel ports were closed, but the American liner *St Paul* had left Southampton and was steaming down the Solent when she collided with the Royal Navy cruiser *Gladiator*. The *Gladiator* was so severely damaged that she sank and 31 members of the crew lost their lives.

In the Thames Valley, on the Friday rain and sleet fell most of the day, and it started to snow in the early hours of Saturday morning. The early snow thawed as soon as it hit the wet roads. But by nine o'clock the snow was so heavy that it began to settle. In the evening the wind increased and began to drive the still falling snow into large drifts. The shops in Wallingford closed early and very few public houses opened, though the Bell in Crowmarsh did for a short time. But as no customers came the pub soon closed.

Mr and Mrs Harvey du Cros of Howbery Park were motoring down from London, when their car became snowbound at the foot of Gangsdown Hill. The chauffeur was sent on foot to Howbery to arrange for a horse to be sent to pick up the du Cros and take them on to Howbery. It took the chauffeur several hours to reach Howbery and by then the roads were impassable and the du Cros had to spend the night in a neighbouring cottage.

The train service was severely disrupted, and trains were running some four to five hours late. Passengers from Reading had to wait in stationary trains for over three hours. The last train from Cholsey to Wallingford arrived at two o'clock on Sunday morning, instead of 9.15 Saturday night. Several passengers gave up waiting for the train to arrive from Wallingford and walked from Cholsey, wading through

waist-high snow to reach Wallingford.

The disruption to the postal service was considerable. At this time, the post was delivered seven days a week and post was brought to the Wallingford sorting office from the local villages each evening. Because of the snow, the village postmen were unable to bring their mail to Wallingford for sorting, with one exception. The postman from Ewelme walked to Wallingford with his mail; he arrived at midnight, after a journey that had taken him over four hours.

The snow finally stopped a little after midnight. Sunday morning dawned bright and clear. The depth of snow was measured at some 20 inches (50.8 mm) with drifts of 4-5 feet. The Sunday post delivery, which usually began at 7am, was delayed until 3pm. The rapid thaw helped considerably the clearing of the streets in Wallingford, but there were complaints that Crowmarsh's pavements and roads were cleared before Wallingford's.

The thaw started almost immediately and this caused the Thames to rise 44 inches (1.25 metres) in 36 hours. These days, when weather records seem to be broken every year, this is one record I wouldn't like to see broken.

It's interesting to note that just six days later, on May Day, the weather was sunny and warm, with no sign of the snow that had caused such disruption to everyday life all over the country.

#### **Short Mat Bowls**

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

### **Useful telephone numbers**

**Crime Stoppers** 

0800 555 111

Police non-emergency number 101



## **Plants, Borders and Gardens**

At the April meeting of the Wallingford Gardening Club, Timothy Walker will talk about 'Plants, Borders and Gardens'. This is the Club's prestigious annual 'Bill Baker Memorial Lecture'.

Timothy Walker is a British botanist, and has been the Director of the University of Oxford Botanic Garden and Harcourt Arboretum since 1988. He studied for his degree in Botany at University College Oxford, and became a trainee gardener at the Oxford Botanic Garden. Subsequently, he gained experience at the Savill Garden in Windsor Great Park, and Kew Gardens, and won four gold medals at the Chelsea Flower Show.

Timothy presents a very personal view of modern English gardening and gardens. His talk starts by looking at some plants from all over the world that deserve to be more widely grown in our gardens. This is followed by a look at some ways of putting plants together to create borders and finishes with a consideration of what makes plants and borders into a garden.

The talk will be held at Ridgeway Community Church, Wallingford at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th April. Visitors are welcome, for a £3 charge on the door.

Advance notice of future talks:

Thursday 12th May – South African Plants in the Wild and in your Garden (Sue Bedwell) Saturday 14th May – Wallingford Gardening Club's Annual Plant Sale in Wallingford Market Place

June to September – garden visits
Thursday 13th October – Beautiful Kashmir
(Anthony Powell)

Thursday 10th November – Herbaceous Borders (Geoff Hawkins)

Isabelle Darby 836867



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# Historic guided walks

By popular demand on Saturday 2nd April, two historic guided walks have been arranged. These will be led by Judy Dewey (local historian and Museum curator).

At 11am there will be a Castle history walk, followed by a Town history walk at 2.30pm. Each walk lasts about 2 hours, and will start at the Museum. There is a charge of £6 for each walk, or you can do both walks for a bargain £10 (unsuitable for dogs!).

So here's a chance to immerse yourself in the town's fascinating local history for the whole day and also visit the new '1066: William Comes to Wallingford', and '300 Years of Cartoons!' exhibitions at the Museum.

Just come along, or contact Judy Dewey for details (tel 651127). Our website is www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

# 1066: William Comes to Wallingford

This year, 2016, marks two major anniversaries in English history - the 950th anniversary of the last successful invasion of England - The Norman Conquest of England by William the Conqueror - and the one date in English history most people know, 1066, The Battle of Hastings. It is also the 1000th anniversary of the Viking conquest of England by the Danish King Cnut.

Wallingford and 'Wessex', were very much part of the story of both of these invasions. The Danish take-over in 1016, after fierce battles and campaigns, forms the background story to the Norman Conquest of 1066. The exhibition explains just what this was all about. Most significantly for our local history is the fact that, after the Battle of Hastings, William the Conqueror and his army eventually made their way to Wallingford and crossed over the river here.

The exhibition at Wallingford Museum reveals the importance of what happened here at that time, when the army pitched camp at Wallingford. It not only changed Wallingford's history but also England's history! After the Norman Conquest William ordered the building of the great royal castle at Wallingford, which became one of the most important in England. The Museum's exhibition continues with detailed glimpses into the life of the castle, using newly discovered evidence from the surviving medieval documents.

There's plenty for the children to do too at Wallingford Museum: finding the Norman spearhead, the Saxon arrowhead, the tiny medieval chess-piece and many more fascinating items from the castle. There's also a quiz - guided by 'Charterman', our own little cartoon medieval figure to find as they go round! And, of course, there are sandpits to excavate and the 'smelly-feely' drawers to explore!

And if you come early in the season, your £5 entry ticket will give you terrific value, as you'll be able to return as many times as you like for no extra cost. Children under 16 are free, when accompanied by an adult.

# Sue Ryder – Sale Dates

The date for the next Sales of Donated Goods are Saturdays 2nd and 23rd April. 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.

# **Agrivert Tour**

Would you like to know what goes on at the Agrivert anaerobic digestion site (just up Benson Lane)? If so, join the Agrivert tour on 27th April, 10-11am. Contact John Griffin to book your place: johngriffin@phonecoop.coop.

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# William the Conqueror and Wallingford 1066

Katharine Keats-Rohan returns to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) with a talk describing the strong connections of William the Conqueror with Wallingford.

2016 is the anniversary of the two eleventh-century conquests of England, the Danish Cnut's accession in 1016, and the Norman Conquest of 1066. This talk is designed to complement this year's exhibition in Wallingford Museum, and Katharine will look at Wallingford in the context of both events, with particular focus on the important role played by the town in December 1066, leading to the coronation of William the Conqueror on Christmas Day.

This talk will be held on Wednesday 13th April, 7.45 for 8pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford. Please note that TWHAS talks are now being held on the second Wednesday of each month at St Mary's Church, Wallingford.

Visitors (£4) are most welcome. www.twhas.org.uk

# April at the Corn Exchange

Highlights of the Corn Exchange's programme for April are as follows:

2nd April Johnny Cash Revisited – a tribute evening.

*13th-16th* Sinodun Players present TWO by Jim Cartwright.

23rd April Shakespeare on Love. The theme of love in Shakespeare's work

29th April Croft and Pearce Comedy Sketch Show.

More details at www.cornexchange.org.uk, or (box office) 825000.

# Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum: Upcoming Events

Brigadier Robin Draper CVO OBE presents 'Redcoats to Riflemen' on Wednesday 6th April, 7 to 8.30pm, doors open at 6.45pm. Tickets £5; refreshments available.

This is the exceptional story of our County Regiment from 1741 through The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry and the Royal Green Jackets to The Rifles. Join us for this fascinating talk at the home of the regimental archive.

Liz Woolley presents 'Oxfordshire and the Spanish Civil War' on Wednesday 11th May, 7 to 8.30pm, doors open at 6.45pm. £10 ticket includes a glass of wine and small eats.

In July 1936, right-wing army officers staged a coup against the democratically-elected government of Spain, prompting a three-year civil war. More than half a million died, mainly civilians, and the conflict became a tragic precursor to World War II. This talk tells the story of how the people of Oxfordshire responded to the Spanish Civil War.

# Crowmarsh village defibrillators – a reminder

The defibrillators are located at the entrance to the village hall and at the entrance to the pavilion. In the event of a suspected cardiac arrest, dial 999 in the normal way. If there is more than one person with the patient and they do not appear to have a pulse, ask the ambulance controller for the code for the nearest defibrillator. Remember to take your mobile phone with you when you go to collect the defibrillator.

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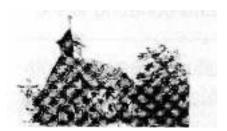
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# St Mary Magdalene's Church Crowmarsh Gifford

Team Rector: Rev'd David Rice 22 Castle Street, Wallingford Email: david.rice@ntlworld.com Tel. 01491 202188

Churchwardens:

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

#### **Services for April**

Easter .2.	11am	Parish Communion
Easter .3.	11am	All Age Worship
Easter .4.	11am	Parish Communion
Easter .5.	11am	All Age Communion
	Easter .3. Easter .4.	Easter .3. 11am Easter .4. 11am

I hope that everyone had a lovely Easter, and were able to benefit from the break from school or the office.

We had another successful Quiz & Chips Evening on 11th March, and a goodly number of the brainy people of Crowmarsh came along to have a fun evening. And by the sound of it from the back of the church, that is exactly what they had – laughter is such a lovely sound.

As I write this we are eagerly awaiting our Easter services, when the drabness of Lent can give way to the brightness of Easter.

On the 13th April we shall be holding our APCM, when we shall be electing Parochial Church Council Members, and Churchwardens, this meeting is open to all members of the Parish; the meeting starts at 7.30pm in Church, and all are welcome.

As some of you may have been aware, we had a special fundraising effort to raise the money for a new Name Board for our church – the old one had slowly deteriorated to the point where the printing was hardly visible. After a prolonged period, whilst we were looking for and gaining permission to erect a new

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board, I can now tell everyone that we have been granted permission to purchase and erect our New Board, and hopefully it will be in place by the time the new Team Vicar arrives.

We shall this month welcome our New Team Vicar, the Reverend Kevin Beer, and his family to the Wallingford Team Ministry, and a new chapter will begin for the congregation of St Mary Magdalene. It is always exciting welcoming a new Priest, and finding out new ways of worship and reacting with the people of the parish. The Licensing Service will take place on 27th April in St Mary's Church, Wallingford at 7.30pm.

We shall be holding our Flower Festival & Fete on 11th & 12th June, the second weekend of the month as usual. However, at the moment there is some discussion as to the format it will take. This weekend, as you will know, is also the celebration of the Queen's 90th Birthday, and various groups within the Village will be getting together to formulate a suitable celebration. So look out for information concerning this event.

With God's Blessings Margaret Foster Churchwarden

# Allotment plot vacant

There is one allotment plot vacant at the Botany allotment site.

If anyone is interested in taking this on, please contact the Parish Council clerk, Sue Rance.

# **Best of Wallingford Charity Fashion Show and Pamper Fair**

On Friday 22nd April, we are running a Charity Fashion Show and Pamper Fair in aid of Oxfam and Wallingford Young People Kenya. These are students from Wallingford School who are fundraising to go to work with orphaned children in Kenya in October. They will be working with the Nasio Trust www.thenasiotrust.org

The Fashion show is a sophisticated evening of fashion and pampering. There will be clothes modelled and available to buy; local stall holders selling their gifts; a Pampering Fair; luxury raffles; live entertainment and two catwalks – day and evening wear. The models are students and teachers of Wallingford School.

The event runs from 7.30pm until 10pm at Wallingfrd School, and doors open at 7pm. Tickets are £8 for adults and £6 for students, in advance only from Julie or Eleanor on 825758 or email: jewel500@btinternet.com. Included in the ticket price is a Bucks Fizz or orange juice on arrival.

# **Compost Giveaway**

The compost giveaway is back this April! Come along with your own box, bag or container to fill up with local compost! And remember to bring a shovel!

This year we are trying to get even more compost delivered so that everyone gets an opportunity to take some compost home.

There will be Master Composters on hand to answer your gardening and composting questions, Love Food Hate Waste advisors to help you reduce your food waste and save money, and the waste and recycling team will also be there to answer any recycling queries or questions.

Grab yourself some recycling goodies, compost bins (£10 cash) and replacement kitchen caddies, buckets and liners (all while stocks last).

The Compost Giveaway will be on Sunday 10th April between 9 and 11am at the old SODC car park, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh.

# Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, by Cranford Choral with the Southern Sinfonia

Cranford Choral Society is to perform Mendelssohn's stunning choral masterpiece, Elijah, with one of the south of England's leading ensembles, Southern Sinfonia. There will also be an exciting team of soloists – including tenor Hugh Hetherington as Elijah. The Society's Music Director, Chris de Souza, will conduct.

The performance is in St Helen's Church, Abingdon on Saturday 16th April at 7:30pm. Tickets are availableon the web via www.cranfordchoral.org.uk, or by phoning Anthony Finn on 835540.

"We are delighted to join Southern Sinfonia and such talented soloists to perform this amazing work," says the Society's chairman, Anthony Finn. "It is the first time we have sung in St Helen's, Abingdon, so we hope to attract people who have never been to one of our concerts, as well as our many friends from the past."

# **Living with Mammals survey**

People's Trust for Endangered Species' (PTES) annual Living with Mammals survey is calling for an army of volunteers to record the mammals they see in local green spaces and to submit this data to the PTES website. This year, the survey began on Easter Monday. Will the results be different from 2015's, when the data showed a fall in the number of sightings of wild rabbits?

David Wembridge, the PTES Mammal Surveys Co-ordinator, explains: "We share the urban environment with many types of mammals and being able to spot how populations are changing is essential in order to understand and encourage biodiversity on our doorsteps."

To take part in the 2016 Living with Mammals survey, register online at www.ptes.org/lwm



#### **Crowmarsh Parish Council News**

Chairman: John Griffin, 29 Thames Mead, Crowmarsh Gifford, tel. 838523,

email: johngriffin@phonecoop.coop

Parish Clerk: Sue Rance, 2 Home Farm, Crowmarsh Gifford Website: http://www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk/index.php

### Notes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 3rd March 2016

Present: Councillors John Griffin (Chair), Nigel Hannigan, Francesca Jones, Stephen Sherbourne, Ann Sharp, David Mannering and Stuart Soames; Sue Rance (Clerk); County Councillor Mark Gray (part of the meeting)

Apologies: Councillors Fillmore, Hermsen, Johnson and Stevenson and Ms CM Malcolm (Finance Officer)

#### Matters arising from previous meeting

Emergency Plan: SODC no longer provide sandbags but Scottish and Southern Energy offer grants towards bags and storage facilities. Cllrs Jones and Hannigan will investigate the options.

Bus Stop at North Stoke
Arrow Fencing have been in touch with Cllr
Soames about making the northbound stop
safer.

#### Oxfordshire Together

Further information is expected in April about the 'Oxfordshire Together' scheme for delegating certain areas of County Council work to the Parish Council.

#### Litter Blitz

This event has been publicised in *Crowmarsh News*, as well as on noticeboards and in the school newsletter. Volunteers will meet at the end of Thames Mead at 10am. All equipment will be supplied by SODC.

Layby opposite St Mary Magdalene Church Biffa were not expected to clear the mud from this layby so the Chairman had made a start and removed five barrow loads.

Community Information Network

Cllr Sherbourne will represent the Parish
Council on this Age UK network.

#### **Finance**

The parish council was satisfied with the effectiveness of the annual internal audit and our internal accounting controls and agreed to reappoint Mr Symes as internal auditor for the current financial year.

February payments were agreed, and a summary of the accounts at 29th February was approved.

A meeting had been held to discuss the grass cutting contract for 2016 and a schedule and map had been drawn up. The contract for grass cutting at Newnham Murren Church was working well with Tom Cottrell. It was agreed to ask Scofell to quote for the main grass-cutting contract.

#### **County Councillor's report**

Mark Gray reported on the ongoing discussions on new unitary authorities for Oxfordshire. There was a different scheme proposed by the District Councils.

Currently Oxfordshire accounts for 80% of the council tax levy. £69 million of savings are to be made at County Council level. Schools, not just secondary schools, are now moving towards academy status, taking them out of local authority control.

Some funding is available to keep children's centres and adult day care centres open. In future, children's centres will become community groups and low level family support will still be able to continue. 'Signposting' will be used to refer those in need to other organisations that can help them.

Referring to the planning application for 19 new homes on the Springs Hotel site in North Stoke, developer funding is likely to be used for improvements to road safety. Cllr Gray would ask Mark Francis of OCC Highways to make a site visit.

#### **Planning**

SODC decisions

P15/S4207/HH (Householder): First floor loft room extension and single storey kitchen extension to front elevation (amended to reduce the scale of the extensions). Withy Windle, Cook Lane, North Stoke (in the parish of Crowmarsh), OX10 6BG: PERMISSION GRANTED.

Parish Council responses to SODC

P15/S2158/FUL (Full): Amendment no. 2: Proposed partial demolition of The Springs Hotel and part conversion, along with new build development to create 19 dwellings. The Springs Hotel, Wallingford Road, North Stoke (in the parish of Crowmarsh), OX10 6BE: RECOMMEND REFUSAL as original application.

P15/S3387/FUL: Amendment no. 1: Proposed demolition of existing buildings and creation of a new headquarters for CABI, erection of 91 dwelling houses, comprising open market and affordable housing, provision of open space, landscaping and parking and other associated works. The residential part of the proposal is made in full while the CABI headquarters part is made in outline form with all matters reserved for future consideration except access. CAB International, Nosworthy Way, Mongewell (in the parish of Crowmarsh), OX10 8DE: RECOMMEND REFUSAL, as original application.

P16/S0568/HH: The addition of a high level rooflight on the north elevation, as previous granted application P14/S3445/HH. The Walled Garden, The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EJ: RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

P16/S0645/FUL: Office extension to western elevation. Jewson Limited, The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8ET: RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

#### Queen's 90th birthday celebrations

Mongewell are planning a street party on Saturday 11th June and North Stoke are arranging a picnic on the Sunday, 12th June. A meeting of all those interested in organising a celebration for Crowmarsh Gifford will take place soon.

# **Environment and Recreation Ground** committee

Cllr Soames reported that work is in hand on the riverside willow trees.

#### Traffic and transport committee

Police are carrying out more speed checks on the A4074 at the Portway. Cllr Sherbourne has received a list of potential contractors for traffic calming measures there: he and the Clerk will draft a letter requesting a technical assessment.

As reported in the March *Crowmarsh News* (page 3), the 134 GoRide bus service through Crowmarsh Gifford and North Stoke will now continue with the current timetable until 20th July (the end of the school summer term).

Kerbstones have become dislodged in a number of places in Crowmarsh Gifford and these will be reported to the County Council via their 'Fix my Street' website.

There have been further complaints about excessive traffic noise at the Crowmarsh roundabout, particularly at night, due to reckless driving, and this has been reported to the police who have undertaken to monitor the situation.

#### Other business

Cllr Soames reported a fault on the parish website.

Cllr Sherbourne will order geraniums for the flower tubs at the end of Benson Lane.

There is one allotment plot vacant: please see the notice elsewhere in this issue.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 7th April at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

It was agreed to hold the annual parish

meeting on Thursday 19th May at Crowmarsh Gifford School, starting at 7.30pm. It was agreed to invite Thames Water, the Environment Agency and SODC to attend and give an update on flood prevention.

# Wallingford U3A

At our March meeting, Dr Tony Maisey treated us to a predictably entertaining hour on "Talking to Children", with examples of the pitfalls and misunderstandings that doctors face on a daily basis as they try to discuss symptoms and treatments with small children.

#### Future dates

6th April. Mrs Jill Carey, "St Helena - Jacob's Ladder and the Saints". Jill has visited us before. Her talks are wonderfully illustrated, lively and full of information about landscapes and wildlife.

4th May. Mrs Valerie Calderbank, "Myths and Legends of the Stars"

Our meetings are held in Crowmarsh Village Hall at 2pm on the first Wednesday of each month. Visitors are always made welcome.

Our programme for 2016 to 2017 is now available.

#### **Outings**

14th April. Royal Hospital, Chelsea

For more information about these activities and about what else we do, please visit our website (Google U3A Wallingford). If you would rather speak to someone, then phone Jill on 835024 or Hermione on 01865 858024. For outings, phone Eileen on 825156.

If you are over 50 and no longer in full time work, come and join us!

# **Henley Philatelic Society**

If you collect anything to do with the post and would like to join a group of like-minded people, do come and visit us one meeting. Apparently there are all sorts of ideas as to what really happens at a 'stamp club meeting' so why not come and see for yourself? The

interesting two hours go very quickly!

13th April – Members' evening, 'Countries of the EU' displays up to nine pages

Thursday 28th April – Guest speaker Greg Wynn gives displays on South Australia and 'Esperanto'

Meetings are usually held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at Bix Village Hall at 7.45pm from September to June inclusive. Visitors and new members are welcome. Details 681739 or on our website: www.henleyphilatelic.co.uk

# 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 Jenny Tatman on 01491 839499 and we'll be pleased to talk to you.

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

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

**Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall is ideal for children's parties** and can be booked for £10.00 per hour (minimum 2 hours).

Please note that bouncy castles or other inflatables cannot be used inside the Hall, and that evening bookings from 7.00pm are subject to the full rate.

To book the Hall, call Chris Strange on 07711 904252, or e-mail cvhbookings@gmail.com.





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# WHAT'S ON - APRIL 2016

# Regular events and meetings

1st & 3rd Mon Every Tuesday 2nd & 4th Weds Every Thursday Every Thursday Every Friday Every Saturday Most Saturdays	19.00 19.00-21.30 Evenings 14.00-16.30 19.45-22.00 08.30-11.15 10.00-12.00 10.00-13.00	Knitting Circle Short Mat Bowls Crowmarsh Ladies Short Mat Bowls Wallingford Photographic Club Wallingford Country Market WAGS Store open Local Producers' Market	Queen's Head, Crowmarsh Crowmarsh Pavilion Telephone 201756 Crowmarsh Pavilion Crowmarsh Pavilion Regal Centre Centre 70 Regal Centre
This month			
Saturday 2nd Saturday 2nd	10.30 11.00 and	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
	14.30	Wallingford Guided History Walks	Meet at Museum
Sunday 3rd	13.30	CTC 20-mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Wednesday 6th	14.00	U3A: St Helena – Jacob's Ladder	Crownersh Village Hell
Thursday 7th	19.30	and the Saints Crowmarsh Parish Council	Crowmarsh Village Hall
marcady run		Meeting	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Saturday 9th	14.00-16.00	Swimathon for John Masefield	
		House	Radley School Pool. Phone 01865 340324
Saturday 9th	Evening	Fish and Chip Specials	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway
Sunday 10th	All day	Free compost giveaway	Car park of former SODC, Benson Lane
Wednesday 13th	19.30	Henley Philatelic: Countries of the	
		EU	Bix Village Hall
Wednesday 13th	19.45	TWHAS talk: William the	Ct Manda Church Wallingford
Saturday 16th	9.30-11.00	Conqueror and Wallingford 1066 Sustainable Wallingford	St Mary's Church, Wallingford
Catalday Total	0.00 11.00	Swapshop	Regal Centre
Sunday 17th	13.30	CTC 30 something mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Thursday 21st	12.00-17.00	Open day at the John Radcliffe	See web for details or phone 01865 743341
Saturday 23rd	All day	St George's Day Specials	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway
Saturday 23rd	10.30	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Wednesday 27th	19.30	Henley Philatelic : Display on the	
		Olympics	Bix Village Hall
Wednesday 27th	10.00-11.00	Agrivert Digesters, Benson Lane	Meet at site

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