

# Crowmarsh News

Issue 461

February 2017

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, Amanda Maher, Edwina Johnson

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 March issue of *Crowmarsh News* must reach us before our **20th February 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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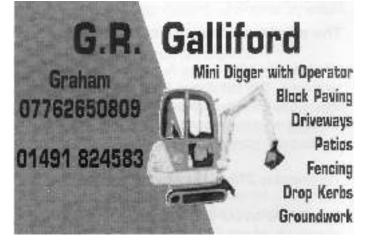
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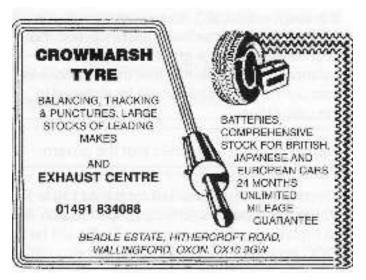
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## Local 134 – Wallingford to Goring - bus service saved

Please note the termination of the current 'Go Ride' Wallingford – Goring bus service on Saturday 28th January.

After unsuccessful approaches to other local bus operators to take over the route, Mr Mike Ward, a Goring resident, has set up his own new company, Going Forward Buses CIC, to not only take over the route as of Monday 30th January, but also to increase the number of daily services. Two mini-buses have been purchased, drivers have been contracted, the service has been registered with the Traffic Commissioners and all other necessary arrangements have been made. The following timetable will operate from 30th January. **Crowmarsh residents please note:** the return journey is NOT via Crowmarsh.

134 Goring - Wallingford via Cleeve and the St Mondays to Saturdays (except Public Holldays)	okes : Co	mmenci	ng Mond	lay 30th	January	2017					
Service Number	134	134	134	134	134		134	134		134	134
GORING, Rail Station	08:00	09:15	10:15	11:15	12:15		13:45	14:45		16:15	17:15
Goring, Lockstile Mead	08:01	09:16	10:16	11:16	12:16		13:46	14:46		16:16	17:16
Cleeve, Scout Hut	08:03	09:18	10:18	11:18	12:18		13:48	14:48		16:18	17:18
South Stoke, Perch & Pike	08:07	09:22	10:22	11:22	12:22		13:52	14:52		16:22	17:22
North Stoke, Shelter	08:12	09:27	10:27	11:27	12:27		13:57	14:57		16:27	17:27
Crowmarsh, Church	08:17	09:32	10:32	11:32	12:32		14:02	15:02		16:32	17:32
WALLINGFORD, Market Place arrive	08:21	09:36	10:36	11:36	12:36		14:06	15:06		16:36	17:36
WALLINGFORD School	08:30S										
	134	134	134	134		134	134		134	134	134
WALLINGFORD School									15:30S		
WALLINGFORD, Market Place depart	08:40	09:40	10:40	11:40		13:10	14:10		15:40	16:40	17:45
Wallingford Hospital	08:41	09:41	10:41	11:41		13:11	14:11		15:41	16:41	17:46
North Stoke, Shelter	08:46	09:46	10:46	11:46		13:16	14:16		15:46	16:46	17:51
South Stoke, Perch & Pike	08:51	09:51	10:51	11:51		13:21	14:21		15:51	16:51	17:56
Cleeve, Scout Hut	08:55	09:55	10:55	11:55		13:25	14:25		15:55	16:55	18:00
Goring, Lockstile Mead	08:57	09:57	10:57	11:57		13:27	14:27		15:57	16:57	18:02
GORING, Rail Station	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00		13:30	14:30		16:00	17:00	18:05

Buses wait up to 5 minutes for late running trains; 17.15 from Goring waits up to 15 minutes. S Schooldays only, operates from a date to be agreed with Oxfordshire County Council

Going Forward Buses CIC can be contacted:

By email: littlebluebus@yahoo.com By phone: 07484 605888

On website: goingforwardbuses.com

# New Basketball facility for Crowmarsh Recreation Ground

Crowmarsh Parish Council is delighted to announce that a new basketball facility has been installed in the Recreation Ground, comprising a tarmac square (56m2) and basketball stand, with backboard and net.



It is free for anyone to use, so just bring a ball along and have a go. Why not show off your skills to your friends, or just play for fun with your family?

**Andrew Johnson** 

### **Crowmarsh Gifford School**

2017 has started off 'brilliantly'! In fact, both staff and pupils began the new term and year off with a visit from the company, 'The Art of Brilliance' the messages all helping to support our school's focus on growth mindset and having a positive attitude.

In school we talk a great deal about how our smile can help brighten up someone else's day and our encouraging words can bring light out of darkness. So our challenge for January was to focus even more on those 'Random Acts of Kindness' - doing small things, to help those around us. Already, the children have been sharing how they are starting to clean their rooms without being asked, helping their neighbours with their shopping, and the list goes on and on.

As a school, we try to encourage visits from a variety of people to share stories and messages that fit with our key themes - stories of resilience, perseverance, making mistakes, how showing kindness changes everything - stories that can bring our themes to life. Therefore, if you or anyone you know has a story to tell, or have something to share that would be pertinent, please do get in touch with the school office.

To keep up to date with things that are going on during the week, please visit the class pages on our website where you can find out all about what the children have been learning about often accompanied with pictures.

We have lots of things to look forward to this year and hope that we are able to welcome you into our school soon.

Until next time...

Kindest Regards, Mrs Barton Headteacher

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

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

## Sue Ryder – Sale Dates

The dates for the next Sale of Donated Goods are Saturdays 4th and 25th February. 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.

# 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.

# 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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### Can you work out the year of these local advertisements?





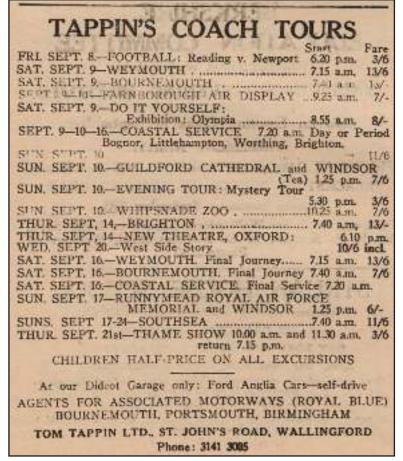
They are all from the same year.

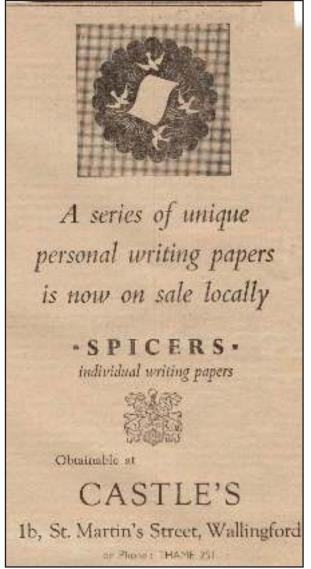
Think about it

– and use the

Web if you
think it will
help!

Answer on page 14.





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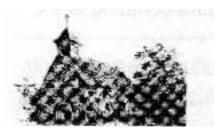


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City 4



# St Mary Magdalene's Church Crowmarsh Gifford

Team Vicar: The Rev'd Kevin Beer

34 Thames Mead

Crowmarsh Gifford. OX10 8EY

Tel: 01491 599873

Email: teamvicar@wallingfordcofe.org.uk

Churchwardens:

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

### Services for February

Sunday 5th	11am	Parish Communion
Sunday 12th	11am	Family Service

Sunday 19th 11am Wallingford Team Service Sunday 26th 11am Family Communion Service

Morning Prayer - every Friday at 9am

Evening Prayer (BCP) – every Sunday at 4pm

'February is merely as long as needed to pass the time until March' (J.R.Stockton)

I sympathise with J.R.Stockton - February always feels like one of the bleakest months of the year. Shakespeare describes one of his characters as having a 'February face,' 'full of frost, and storm and cloudiness'. I know what he means! The month begins well enough with the Church celebration of the Presentation of the Baby Jesus in the temple and meeting two of my favourite Bible characters, Simeon and Anna, but then trails off a bit until we reach Shrove Tuesday right at the end of this shortest of months.

But in the middle, we also have St Valentine's Day to remind us of the path of true love. Traditionally the time when birds found a mate, it seems as good a time as any to think about finding and giving thanks for the person who is most special in our lives – our nearest and dearest.

#### **Short Mat Bowls**

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

#### You can hire

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Call Emma Freeman on 829762, or e-mail

FREEMANE@wallingfordschool.com

For Christians, this day marks an acknowledgement of an all-loving God who blesses those who love one another, as Jesus implored his own disciples to do. Once we find the one that we want to spend the rest of our life with, it is natural that we want God to bless this our most important human relationship. We do not hold very many weddings at St Mary Magdalene, so it is always special when we do. I hope that all residents of Crowmarsh consider St Mary Magdalene's as their first choice for a wedding venue – you do not have to attend regularly or be baptised to be married in our church, the main reason being that it is your church too!

Whether February is your favourite month of the year, or a period to be endured, may you know blessing in all your activities.

### With best wishes, Kevin

# To book North Stoke Village Hall

contact Nikki Arnfeld (839736, 07969 788766, or narnfeld@yahoo.co.uk) or Stuart Soames (836058, or sjwsoames@btinternet.com)



# Special exhibitions in 2017

Volunteers are busy preparing new exhibitions for Wallingford Museum's seasonal opening from 1st March. The new exhibitions are:

Pettits: past to present exhibition will give a history of Wallingford's department store, and a little about the family who ran it from its beginning in 1856 to the present day. The business was started by two brothers and changed and expanded through the years as it passed to later generations of the same family until 1987 when it was taken over by another local family. Over time it has sold a large range of merchandise and undergone several transformations while continuing to serve the people of Wallingford and the surrounding area. The newly renovated department store will be re-opening during 2017.

### **Wallingford Castle - the Inside Story**

presents a closer look at different parts of the castle based on recent research - featuring details of June Strong's new artist's impression of the castle and exploring how the town and castle were linked by many essential services.

But this is not all...!

Ways to Wallingford describes how Wallingford has been an important crossing point on the Thames since Saxon times, and the exhibition will look at transport and trade to and from Wallingford over the ages and consider roads, the river Thames, railways and aviation. In addition to looking at how the routes have developed with fords, ferries and bridges, the Museum displays will cover the many uses of the river and also the importance of RAF Benson from its establishment just before WWII up to the present day.

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. The Museum is open from 1st March. Accompanied children under 16 are free, and there's lots for the family to enjoy throughout the rest of the Museum too. Look out for special events this year including Town

and Castle history walks (8th April), A Night at the Museum (19th May and 28th October), Family Archaeology Day (22nd July), Bunk-Fest offers, and the Agatha Christie Weekend (8th -10th September).

You can also join an increasingly popular Guided Historic Town Walk on any Saturday morning from Easter until the end of September, starting from the Town Hall at 11am. Walks last 1 - 2 hours and cost £5 per head, money which will be donated to support Wallingford Museum.

These are general walks covering the rich history of our town, but also touching on the links with Agatha Christie and *Midsomer Murders*. They will appeal to residents and visitors alike.

If you'd like to organise a Town Walk like this for your group, society or school at a different time, then please contact Philip Burton on 836200 or pburton6@talktalk.net

Full details at www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk



### Ways to Wallingford

February's talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) will be given by Steve Capel-Davies. He will present 'Ways to Wallingford'. Steve's talk is very timely as it complements the forthcoming 'Ways to Wallingford' exhibition at Wallingford Museum.

The talk, whose scope is outlined in the Wallingford Museum entry, will be preceded by a short (as usual!) Annual General Meeting. It will be held on Wednesday 8th February, 7.45 for 8pm at St Mary's Church, Wallingford. As always visitors (£4) are most welcome.

For more information about TWHAS activities, please visit www.twhas.org.uk

#### **Garden Test Pits**

Excavators from TWHAS are continuing their

programme of Garden Test Pits, and have recently completed Test Pit number 85.

In case anyone doesn't know, the Test Pits are 1 metre x 1.5 metres in size and are dug to a depth of 1.2 metres (the deepest that is recommended without shoring up). They take approximately three days to complete and the aim is to achieve 100 of them in Wallingford.

Careful analysis of the pottery, bones and other finds is revealing a lot of information about the distribution of population in the town over the centuries and highlighting areas of dense Saxon and medieval occupation.

Interestingly, the pioneering 'Wallingford Method', developed by Gerard Latham and his team over these 85 Test Pits has become something of a blueprint, sought after by other groups hoping to take on their own projects. TWHAS has led the way in this because it is the first time Test Pitting of this kind has been done as an urban project. The scheme began under the 'Burh to Borough Project' but was subsequently taken on and developed by TWHAS and our volunteer team. All very exciting!

However, to complete the project more gardens are needed, particularly in the southern part of Wallingford! So if you think you can help, please contact Gerard at 832224 or testpits@walcots.co.uk

## **Wallingford Car Rally**

Wallingford Car Rally is on Sunday 7th May and registration is now OPEN! We would like to thank everyone who attended last year. The turn-out was amazing, both in terms of visitors to the main event and the people lining the streets. The event raised £12,000 for local charities.

For 2017 we are not having dedicated club parking stands; instead, we want a mix of vehicles in the parade and all over the Kinecroft. This allows us to have 300 vehicles in the parade, plus we are allowing a further 50 vehicles in our overflow car park on St George's Road. Car clubs are welcome to attend, but need to arrive together on the morning of the event and ensure you have a ticket pre-purchased.

This is a TICKET ONLY EVENT and there will be no spaces available on the day. Due to the massive response when the event was announced last year, we are releasing tickets over a few months and offering Parade Only tickets (these allow you to take part in the parade and either leave or park in the overflow car park).

150 Main Event tickets have gone on sale already, with a further 50 released each month up to the end of April. Just 50 Parade Only tickets are available and they are on sale now.

If you want to take part tickets are on sale on our new Big Cartel ticket sales site http://wallingfordcarrally.bigcartel.com/.

At the end of each month we will be posting out tickets, our new sticker for 2017 kindly designed by Moox Creative Design(www.moox.co.uk), an information sheet and map of the event. We also have new charities, traders and displays.

If you would like to help on the day, please email us at info@wallingfordcarrally.co.uk. For more information go to our website at www.wallingfordcarrally.org.uk and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for updates for the event.

# Wallingford Race Night Friday 24th February

On Friday 24th, Wallingford Town Mayor Ros Lester will host a Race Night in aid of local charity Style Acre.

Rather than heading off to Newbury Racecourse, the night will take place in the comfort of The George Hotel, Wallingford. You will be able to bet on up to six races shown on a screen, with half of the takings to be shared among the winners and half donated to Style Acre.

This will be a fantastic evening and is not to be missed – especially when the odds are good, with a real chance of enjoying a windfall! Tickets are £10, which includes nibbles.

To reserve your space, a table or for more information, contact Chris Burrows on 827593 or cburrows@styleacre.org.uk.

### **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 at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Monday 19th January 2017

Present: Councillors John Griffin (Chair), Francesca Jones, Stuart Soames, Ann Sharp, Stephen Sherbourne, Denise Hall and David Topliss; Sue Rance (Clerk); Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer).

Apologies: Nigel Hannigan, David Mannering, Andrew Johnson and Fleur Stevenson

### **Grass-cuttting**

The main business of this extra meeting was to agree grass-cutting contracts. There had been five tenders. The council agreed to offer the Crowmarsh Gifford recreation ground contract to Scion / Mears Group and the Crowmarsh Gifford verges, open spaces and North Stoke recreation ground to Berinsfield Community Business. Newnham Murren churchyard will be cut by Tom Cottrell as last year.

#### **Finance**

Cllr Soames reported that he had obtained a defibrillator for North Stoke village hall from the British Heart Foundation, as suggested by County Cllr Gray at the last meeting. This is free to the parish and we thank Cllr Soames for his help saving the cost of buying this life-saving equipment.

The council's budget was agreed at the last meeting, broadly uplifting expenditure by 2% across the board and keeping the same precept (the annual sum from SODC, which determines the council tax) as the current year.

A new bus shelter has been installed on Benson Lane at a cost of £1050 + VAT.

### **Planning**

Planning decisions and responses will be

reported in the next edition of the *Crowmarsh News*.

### Application withdrawn:

P15/S2158/FUL Part demolition and redevelopment at the Springs Hotel, Wallingford Road, North Stoke, OX10 6BE. The applicant has now withdrawn this application.

### **Correspondence and other business**

Copy of a letter from a resident of The Limes to Thames Water, reporting a succession of problems with regular contractor's access to a mains drainage cover in her back garden. The clerk will write to Thames Water in support of the resident.

A contractor will be engaged to cut back sycamore trees on Botany allotments.

#### **Next meetings**

The next Parish Council meetings will be held on 2nd February and 2nd March 2017, both at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

The date of the Annual Parish Council Meeting will be agreed at a later date. There will be County Council elections on Thursday 4th May 2017.

# Wallingford Gardening Club

At the February meeting of the Wallingford Gardening Club, Brian Fisher will talk about the "Madeira Quintas and Botanical Garden".

Brian has a Wisley Diploma and, although now retired, continues to advise in several private gardens, and lectures widely at horticultural societies and on cruise ships.

The talk will be held at Ridgeway Community Church, Wallingford at 7.30pm on Thursday 9th February. Entrance £3, visitors very welcome; call Isabelle Darby on 836867.

# Barn Dance, Cholsey Meadows

Roll up, roll up for a night of fun. Sustainable Wallingford is holding a barn dance on Saturday 25th February, 6.30 to 10.30pm in the Great Hall at Cholsey Meadows, OX10 9FF. Featuring popular local band, Traction, and their caller, Pete North. Don't worry if you don't know your Canadian barn dance from your Dashing White Sergeant, the caller will keep you right.

Come as a family, come with friends, make up a group – the more the merrier. There will be an interval to catch your breath and eat the supper provided using food from the South Oxfordshire Food Education Alliance (SOFEA). Local beers will be available as will fair trade wines and soft drinks.

Start time is 6.30pm so bring the young 'uns and take 'em home when they are tired.

Tickets, which are very good value as they include supper, cost £12 for adults, £8 for under 16s, students and over 65s. A family ticket (2 adults + 2 kids under 16) costs £35. Under 5s go free.

Tickets are available from Just Trading in Wallingford, R.G. Park, butcher in Cholsey, the Village Stores in Brightwell-cum-Sotwell or by calling 201229. Leave your name, address and how many of each ticket you want. You can collect them on the door. Tickets can also be bought on the door.

# Vintage Fashion Show and Pamper Evening

On the 11th March at 7pm Crowmarsh Village Hall will be transported back to the roaring 20s and fabulous 1940s/50s with an evening of vintage fashion, entertainment and pampering! Included in the show ticket price, as well as viewing a gorgeous fashion show with stunning day and evening wear from Sew Very Vintage, entertainment will be provided with beautiful vintage songs from Estelle Buckridge.

A range of stalls will offer shopping and beauty

treatments, along with local pop up tearoom Polka Dots & Teapots tempting you with cream teas, delicious cakes as well as a range of cocktails and fizz all served on beautiful vintage china. A charity raffle in aid of The Alzheimer's Society will also take place, with a range of prizes kindly donated by the stall holders and show organiser.

Tickets are £10 (includes free welcome drink) purchased in advance from Sew Very Vintage, 10 St Mary's Street Wallingford or contact Hayley on 07856 237986.

## Wallingford U3A

At our meeting on 4th January David Day spoke with enthusiasm and splendid photographs about Pendon Museum at Long Wittenham. Roy England was enchanted by the Vale of the White Horse, by the scenery and the way of life of rural England that had evolved over centuries. He wanted to record what he saw before it was swept away. He decided to construct his records by miniature modelling of landscapes and buildings.

In 1954 he managed to set up Pendon Museum. And so the records are there: highly detailed, accurate examples taken from the length of the Vale. The work of the Museum is ongoing, as is change.

If you would like to come to our talks, our meetings are held in Crowmarsh Village Hall at 2pm on the first Wednesday of each month. Visitors are always made welcome.

1st February: A brief AGM, then John and Simone Richards will speak on "Travels in India and Nepal"

1st March: Still in India, Richard Wilson: "The Global Problem of Slums. What can be Done"

Find out more about what we do by visiting Google u3awallingford, or by phoning Hermione on 01865 858024.

(It is clearly not long after 1959, and the dates fall on the right days of the week in 1961.)

1961

Past Times answer (from page 6):









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# WHAT'S ON - FEBUARY 2017

**Knitting Circle** 

Queen's Head, Crowmarsh

### Regular events and meetings

19.00

1st & 3rd Mon

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			
Wednesday 1st	14.00	U3A: A brief AGM, then	
		"Travels in India & Nepal"	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 2nd	19.30	Crowmarsh Parish Council	_
-		Meeting	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Saturday 4th	10.30	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Sunday 5th	13.30	CTC 23-mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market
			Place
Wednesday 8th	19.45	Henley Philatelic: Quiz	
		evening	Bix Village Hall
Wednesday 8th	19.45	TWHAS: "Ways to	
		Wallingford"	St Mary's Church, Wallingford
Sunday 19th	13.30	CTC 30-mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market
			Place
Wednesday 22nd	19.45	Henley Philatelic: Action	
		viewing	Bix Village Hall
Friday 24th	Evening	Style Acre race night	George Hotel. See Style Acre
			Web for details
Saturday 25th	10.30	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Tuesday 28th	9.30	Pancake racing	Wallingford Market Place

For details of walks with Didcot & Wallingford Ramblers, please see www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford

In February, there are rambles on the 7th, 9th, 11th, 12th, 16th and 21st of the month.