



Issue 532

October 2023

The Crowmarsh News team

The *Crowmarsh News* is run by the Crowmarsh News Association, a group of local volunteers — more help always welcome!

Editorial & Layout: Sian Evans and Jane Thrift

Editorial support: Toni & James Taylor, John Griffin, Julian Park and Revd Kevin Beer

Advertising: Pat Shields

Distribution: Frank Sadler and the team

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.

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Leaflet distribution

For a single sheet loose insert in the *Crowmarsh News* (size up to A4) our rate is £33.00 for 1 month. Advertisers must supply their own inserts (930 copies please).

Useful telephone numbers

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NHS non-emergency number	111

Next month's issue

All new advertisements and all copy for the November 2023 *Crowmarsh News* must reach us by our **20th October deadline**.

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

crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com

or deliver to the editors at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

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Cholsey Repair Café

Saturday November 18th will see the last Cholsey Repair Café of 2023 at the Cholsey Pavilion, opening at 11.00 and running until 13.45. The knowledgeable volunteers will be there to show you how to tackle a wide range of repairs to household items – or at least offer advice on what is possible. Repair work is free, although donations towards operating costs are gratefully received. Early visitors will also be able to get tea, coffee and cakes at the Cholsey Community Café, right next door.

Looking towards 2024, the sessions will continue to run on the third Saturday of odd-numbered months. You can find out more about the scheme at www.cholseyrepaircafe.com or phone 01491 652295.

Poppy Appeal Volunteers

The Poppy Appeal is the Royal British Legion's biggest fundraising campaign held every year in November, during the period of *Remembrance*.

Volunteers have been at the heart of the Poppy Appeal for over 100 years, and each year thousands of amazing volunteers across the country help raise millions of pounds during the Poppy Appeal.

As a Poppy Appeal Organiser for the local area covering Goring, South Stoke, Ipsden, North Stoke, Mongewell and Carmel Meadow, we raised almost £4,000 in 2022. We currently do house-to-house collections in part of the area and are looking to extend this to include Carmel Meadow. If you'd like to help or learn more then please contact me by email Judith.Soames@btinternet.com or my daughter Sam (07773 214566).

The Royal British Legion relies on volunteers to help support serving and ex-serving personnel and their families.

Judith Soames

To book the pavilion or hardcourt on the Recreation ground in Crowmarsh Gifford

Phone Chris Strange on 07711 904252, or email chrisstrange47@gmail.com

Welcome to new residents

A warm welcome if you have just moved into Crowmarsh Gifford, Mongewell or North Stoke, and we hope you will be very happy here and quickly become part of our local community.

Thames Path closure

Diversion signs and maps are in place during the closure of the pedestrian bridge across the Thames at Benson weir. Bygone Boating based at the Benson marina are running a passenger ferry service across the river daily between the Riverside Café and Benson lock while the bridge is closed. This will normally run from 9.30am to 6pm, but it is a good idea to call 07375 677823 before setting off on your walk to check that the ferry will be running.

Dogs and Allotments

The Parish Council have received several complaints from allotment holders in Botany Gardens about some large dogs running up to people barking and behaving in an aggressive and threatening manner. The allotments are not a dog exercise area, so if you are walking through with your dog, please ensure that it is under proper control on a lead. Please also ensure that you clear up any resulting mess.

Thank you.

Benson Choral Society

Choral Workshop—Bach B Minor Mass
9.30am—3.30pm, Saturday 4th November
2023 The Great Hall Cholsey

Join members of Benson Choral Society preparing for their performance of Bach's B Minor Mass on 25th November. The workshop will be led by renowned conductor Steven Grahl (Director of Music, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford and conductor of Schola Cantorum) and accompanied by Anita D'Attellis. A wonderful opportunity to 'get under the bonnet' of this great work.

Tickets: £20.00

For further information see the BCS website:
www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk

Sue Ryder nurses walk under the stars

Sue Ryder Nurse, Vicki Hall, is walking under the stars next month for the Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Thames Valley, and has spoken about how important the feeling of 'togetherness' is when remembering a loved one.

Senior Nursing Assistant, Vicki, works at Sue Ryder Palliative Care Hub South Oxfordshire.



She said: "I did my first Starlight Hike last year with another nurse, Angie, and we absolutely loved it. We wanted to represent Sue Ryder and come together with everyone

who is walking in memory of a loved one.

"We went out, armed with our glow sticks, and the atmosphere was just incredible. Everywhere you looked on the walk the path was just illuminated – it's really special to see so many people coming together. We met loads of families we have supported recently and in the past. I think when remembering a life that feeling of togetherness is so important, and that is what the Starlight Hike is all about."

Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Thames Valley, sponsored by CH&CO and supported by Focus Resourcing and Azego, will return to the beautiful grounds of Pangbourne College on the evening of Saturday 21st October 2023, and it's hoped hundreds of walkers will lace up their trainers in support.

Registration begins at 5.30pm with an electrifying pre-walk warm up from Clubbercise, and live music entertainment from local band One in the Chamber to help build the party atmosphere.

Sign up now at sueryder.org/starlightthamesvalley

Tickets are £15 for adults and £6 for children aged 6-17. Children five and under go free. Discounts for groups of ten or more are also available and you can contact the Sue Ryder Thames Valley fundraising team with any By emailing:

thamesvalley.fundraising@sueryder.org or calling 0118 9550 433.

October Cycle Rides

Cycling UK bike rides from Wallingford. For October, there will be no need to pre-book on these rides, just turn up, sign in and have fun.

All rides will depart from Wallingford Market Place and will include a refreshment stop.

5th October Fun Thursday

John Skevington

1300 Wallingford Market Place 3 hours

13th October Fun Thursday

John Skevington

1300 Wallingford Market Place 3 hours

15th October Mid Pace Sunday

Mark Ralston

1300 Wallingford Market Place 3 hours

19th October Fun Thursday

John Skevington

1300 Wallingford Market Place 3 hours

26th October Fun Thursday

John Skevington

1300 Wallingford Market Place 3 hours

Further details are available on our website

(<http://www.ctcwallingford.org.uk>) and

Facebook page (log in required, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wallingfordctc>).

If you have questions about any of the above or other aspects of CTC Wallingford please email us - info@ctcwallingford.org.uk

CTC Wallingford (part of Cycling UK)

John Buckley Open Studios

John Buckley's open studios exhibition promises an immersive experience blending art, social awareness, and a call for change, in a unique opportunity to witness the transformative power of art in highlighting the pressing issues of our time, and underscores the importance of unity, inclusivity, community, and positive change.

October 9th – November 6th, 2023

The Art Studio, Braziers Park, Wallingford, OX10 6AN

11:00 AM – 4:00 PM on Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays

Admission: Free. For further information and details please contact: Karen Goodewardene neocartouche2020@gmail.com

The Corn Exchange events

Cinema

All regular performances normally start at 7:30pm unless stated otherwise. Please note that we will start on time and that latecomers will only be allowed in after the start of the film where there is no disruption to sitting patrons. This means that we may have to reseat some latecomers. For Live Screenings we reserve the right to seat latecomers in the Curtis Room where there is a large screen relay. The bar and auditorium will open from 7pm so there's plenty of time to collect drinks beforehand.

Films with subtitles will be shown on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons at 2:30pm.

Please look at the website (www.cornexchange.org.uk) for updates.

Tickets £10 for Adults and £5 for under 15s unless otherwise stated.

Cinema

Sunday 1st, Monday 2nd, Tuesday 3rd, Wednesday 4th (2:30pm & 7:30pm) - A Haunting in Venice (12A)

Friday 6th to Sunday 7th – Bolan's Shoes (15)
Sunday 22nd to Tuesday 24th – The Old Oak (15)

Wednesday 25th (2:30pm & 7:30pm) – An Evening with Jonas Kaufmann (12A)

Thursday 26th – Angel Headed Hipster, the songs of Marc Bolan & T-Rex (12A)

Friday 27th to Tuesday 31st – The Miracle Club (12A)

Live on Stage

Wednesday, 18th October to Saturday 21st October, 7:30pm and Saturday 7:30pm

Sinodun Players with The Welkin

All Tickets £12

Monday, 30th October, 7:30pm Peter

Knight's Gigspanner Big Band

Tickets £25, bookable from Nettlebed Folk

Club on 01628 636620 or 01628 603670

(NOW SOLD OUT)

Live Screening

Thursday, 5th October, 7:15pm

L'Elisir d'Amour

£18 (adults), £15 (seniors), £10 (under 18s)

Brightwell Art Club

Brightwell Art Club meet on Saturday mornings (10 to 12) at the Village Hall. They are a friendly group of people who welcome beginners as well as more experienced painters, and usually have a tutor with them helping on a differing theme each week.

You could pop in and meet the group on a Saturday morning, coffee is about 11am. For further information, email: anne@honeyball.com

This is our autumn term programme:

7 th Oct	Painting shadows and dappled light	Anthony Wilder
14 th Oct	Light and Dark – Creating contrast in painting	Janet Lueck
21 st Oct	Half term – No Club	
28 th Oct	Painting flowers in a loose style	Vickie Squires
4 th Nov	Using a muted palette	Janet Lueck
11 th Nov	Painting street scenes	Vickie Squires
18 th Nov	To be confirmed	
25 th Nov	Abstract studies	Janet Lueck
2 nd Dec	EXHIBITION	

Past Times from David Beasley

While sitting in my office, compiling this month's article for the Crowmarsh News, I can see the foothills of the Chilterns, where cornflowers used to grow. Around here, there are some very attractive villages, including Crowmarsh, Mongewell, North Stoke, Ewelme, the Moretons and Ipsden.

Personally, my favourite village is Ipsden – being off the beaten track it has no short cut through to any large town, and the traffic is mainly local. Entering the village from the main Reading to Crowmarsh road, you pass the monument and pond. On your right, the monument was erected by Edward Reade, who lived at Ipsden House from 1860 to 1882, to the memory of his brother John Reade, who died in India whilst serving with East India Company.

The old post office is just along the road, previously served by Janet Lindsay, who was Postmistress here for almost 50 years. She was born in Fife, Scotland in 1873, and was 90 when she died in December 1962. She lived most of her life in Ipsden.

The track opposite the Mere leads to the School and Newtown and past "Druids Temple", which has a collection of some 10 or 11 stones in a circle. Today they are very overgrown and not easy to find, but despite its name they were only erected in 1827, by Edward Anderdon Reade of Ipsden House.

Near the old School is "Ben's" Cottages, a pair of cottages built in memory of Bennett Remnant, the only son of Peter Remnant M.P. of Ipsden House. Ben was a young officer in the Rifle Brigade who was killed on 26th January 1945 in Holland during the 2nd World War. Hailey Open Air Sanatorium was situated near Hailey House and was run by a Dr. Reinhardt from the 1890s for about 12 years. When it was closed, Mr Glynn Williams built the present house.

Ipsden to me is a quintessential English village, the walks around Ipsden are truly beautiful and it's an area I will always return to.

Henley and District Stamp Club

We have re-commenced our meetings in Bix Village Hall and we are looking forward to an interesting season.

The Henley Stamp Club is a friendly group and we would be delighted to see new visitors or members. If you are interested in facts concerning stamps or postal history, why not come along and find out about how you can promote your interest?



To learn more about stamps and postal history why not visit us at Bix one Wednesday evening? You can then meet people who find postal history and the story of stamps fascinating too.

Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month in Bix Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday 11th October – Members evening displaying "Ephemera".

Wednesday 25th October – Guest speaker, Peter Wood, with a display on the subject "It's an Irish World"

Visitors and new members are very welcome.

Further details can be obtained by phoning Steve on 07767 251670 or on our website:

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
Blog: revkevbeer.blogspot.co.uk

St Mary Magdalene's Church, Crowmarsh Gifford

October Services (at St Mary Magdalene unless otherwise stated)

Sunday	1st October	11am Harvest Festival Family Service
Sunday	8th October	11am Parish Communion
Friday	13th October	7pm "Quiz'n'Chips" (in church)
Saturday	14th October	10.30am-12.30pm Crowmarsh Community Café (Village Hall)
Sunday	15th October	11am Parish Communion
Sunday	22nd October	11am Family Communion
Sunday	29th October	9.30am Team Communion at St Agatha's, Brightwell
Sunday	5th November	11am All Saints' Family Service
Sunday	5th November	6pm All Souls' Memorial Service

Morning Prayer— every Friday at 9am

Evening Prayer— every Sunday at 6pm (except 10th September)

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

The Vicar writes ...

Our next fundraiser is on Friday 13th with our popular "Quiz'n'Chips" quiz night held in the church. Please let me have you team entries with choice of Fish, Sausage or Vegetarian Spring Roll and Chips. Tickets are £15 per person (or £7 without food). All the plans for the new toilet and servery are in place, and we are waiting to secure the necessary finances and grants, to ensure that we can complete the work within the 2 year time frame of the approval notice.

Of course, we would also love to see you in church for one of the main festivals of the year which is Harvest. This year we hope to have lots of entries for our Harvest Art competition to also decorate the church. As usual, we will also be collecting non-perishable food for the Wallingford Emergency Food Bank which is more in demand than ever during the current cost of living crisis. We were all stunned to learn that the Food Bank was running low on baked beans for the first time in its history! You will find a collection box all year round in the church entrance, and any donations will be appreciated. If you want to know what to give, there is an app which lets you know what is needed: www.bankthefood.org/downloadapp/ - then just search for Wallingford.

Hope to see you soon, either on a Sunday in church, or at the Quiz'n'Chips or at the Community Café (or even all three!)

Blessings, Rev Kev



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Parish council notes

Crowmarsh Parish Council met on Thursday 7th September 2023 at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall.

Those present were Councillors John Griffin, Stephen Sherbourne, Julian Park, Fleur Stevenson and David Rowley, Clerk Mrs Sue Rance, Finance Officer Dr Yvonne Peet, District Councillor Sue Cooper and three members of the public.

Public comment

A resident of The Street raised concerns about light pollution from the beacons at the zebra crossing. The County Council have promised to fit shrouds and the Finance Officer will contact Drayton Construction to find out when these will be fitted.

A resident of Winters Field reported that the boundary of the former SODC office site has become badly overgrown and poses a fire risk in the current dry weather. District Cllr Cooper will speak to the new head of property at SODC to ensure that the site is properly maintained, whatever its future might be.

Members of the public are welcome to attend all our meetings and may address the council at the start of the meeting for up to 3 minutes, with a maximum of 15 minutes set aside for public speaking.

Matters arising from previous meetings

Yvonne Peet, the council's Finance Officer, agreed to represent the parish council on the group who are working on the community larder project.

The Parish Council has expressed interest in the county council's electric vehicle charging station scheme for the village hall and the pavilion.

Finance

Payments were agreed including £126,676 for the zebra crossing (to come out of the Community Infrastructure Levy receipts), £100 to Oxfordshire Museums Service to acquire an

item of mediaeval treasure found in the parish, £3124 for architectural project management of the pavilion project and £480 for tree surgery at the nature area.

Planning

The Planning Inspectorate has dismissed the appeal against refusal of application P22/S2233/FUL to demolish a rear single-storey extension and erect a two-storey single dwelling at Sheringham House, Crowmarsh Hill, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BG. The parish council had recommended refusal).

Decisions by SODC

[P23/S2125/HH](#) 15 Thames Mead, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EU. Single-storey front extension. New roof over proposed and part existing. Planning permission.

[P23/S2481/LB](#) 55A The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EA. Replace 3 sash windows on front elevation with like-for-like wooden double-glazed units. Listed Building Consent

[P23/S2179/HH](#) 6 The Limes Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8HF. Proposed first floor front extension above existing single-storey projection and two-storey rear extension. Removal of existing conservatory and erection of single-storey rear extension. Planning Permission.

Consultations

[P23/S2887/HH](#) 113 The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EF. Front porch. Recommend approval.

[P23/S2817/HH](#) Broomfields, 113 The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EF. Proposed loft conversion with dormer to the rear and front roof window.

Recommend approval.

District Council report

The District Councillors' report had been circulated and was discussed.

Following public demand in view of the hot weather, the riverside splash park would reopen over the weekend.

A campaign is under way to educate residents in kerbside recycling to avoid lorryloads being rejected due to contamination. SODC recycling remains excellent, second place in the country for the percentage recycled.

A second application is being prepared for bathing water status on the Thames at Wallingford.

There was again no report from the county councillor.

Environment and recreation

There was an update on the final stages of the pavilion improvements, which are virtually complete, although the builders, SCM, have gone into liquidation. Building regulations approval is still awaited and there are a few outstanding issues to be dealt with. The next meeting of the Environment and recreation committee will be held on 28th September. A further £36,000 in grant money is due from SODC on completion of the project.

Residents of French Gardens have been consulted and responded positively to the proposed location of a dog waste bin. The council plans to install a bin and will review the need for additional bins in due course.

Traffic and transport

A letter will be drafted to be placed on the windscreen of parked vehicles causing an obstruction in Benson Lane. There had been no response from OCC Highways on work needed to improve footpath no. 2 off Benson Lane.

20mph speed limit signs have been installed but signage is incomplete in some places including North Stoke, where speeding traffic on the B4009 is still a serious problem. The Speed Indication Device in the Street is not working and it was agreed to purchase a new one at a cost of £2,250.

Strategic priorities

CLLr Park shared information on proposed locations for five parish interpretation boards:

- End of Watery Lane near Wallingford Bridge
- Newnham Murren church
- Carmel / Mongewell
- Icehouse Hill near the lodge
- North Stoke, near the Village Hall.

Each board would be oak-framed, vertical, A1 size, showing the same information.

The Clerk will contact landowners as necessary and ask SODC if advertisement consent may be needed.

The chairman had responded to consultation on the Oxfordshire Strategic Active Travel Network to make sure Watery Lane is included as part of a Wallingford-Goring off-road route.

Residents will be consulted on future objectives for the parish council via a survey, both on the website:
<http://crowmarshgifford.org.uk> and in Crowmarsh News.

Recruiting parish councillors

The parish council, like others in Oxfordshire, still has vacancies. We want to encourage residents, including recent arrivals, and particularly anyone living in Mongewell and North Stoke, to apply to join the council. There will be a publicity campaign, including a leaflet in Crowmarsh News, and people are invited to talk to any councillor or contact the clerk to find out more about the role.

Next meeting

The next parish council meeting will be at North Stoke Village Hall on Thursday 5th October 2023, starting at 7.30pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

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

Chairman: John Griffin, 29 Thames Mead email: johngriffin@phonecoop.coop

***Please see the parish website for the latest on many local matters:
www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk***

To book North Stoke Village Hall
Phone Nikki Arnfeld on 839736 or email narnfeld@yahoo.co.uk



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Benson Garden Club

In line with Benson Garden Club's usual annual programme, our series of speaker events re-starts in October and we are very excited to announce that the first talk will be given by Charles Dowding, the Guru of No Dig Gardening. This talk will be held on Thursday 5th October 2023 in Benson parish hall, OX10 6LZ - doors open at 7.15pm for 7.45pm start. Visitors are very welcome to attend for £12 each - please book either online by visiting our website, by emailing us (addresses listed below), or by purchasing tickets in person from Derry's Den (26 High Street, Benson). A reduced price is available for members.

Charles will give a practical and inspirational talk on the no dig method. In his own words, "No dig makes life easier, and plants grow more healthily, with fewer weeds. My advice takes the mystery out of gardening, to make it timesaving, straightforward and enjoyable". Charles started experimenting with no dig in 1982. Since then, Charles has become known as the Guru of No Dig and has published over 10 books on the subject and appeared on BBC Gardeners' World.

We will also have our "Flower of the Month" competition (for members only). Members are invited to bring a single flower in a container from their garden which Charles will judge. A small prize will be awarded to the winner.

Thursday 2nd November we will have Chris Day who will be speaking on "Taming the Indoor Jungle - Houseplants made easy". More information about entry prices for this event can be found on our website (just turn up on the door for this one, no need to book).

Over the summer, Benson Garden Club has enjoyed some lovely garden visits. We started in May with a guided visit, especially for our members, of Oxford Botanic Garden. This was followed in June with a visit to Primrose Garden in Steeple Aston – a beautiful walled garden with herbaceous borders, a vegetable garden and a pond. In July, we visited Marlston Farm where Kim Marshall grows British flowers wholesale for florists. It was a fascinating trip and Kim was passionate about her work. Then in August, Mary Roadnight, one of our members, kindly hosted our annual social in her lovely garden, which proved an ideal setting for our relaxed event. And by the time you read this in October, we will have visited Turn End Garden in Haddenham, an internationally renowned garden with a series of rooms and courtyards.

Further information about this thriving club, which has been running for over 25 years, and how to join as a member can be found on our website <https://bensongardeningclub.weebly.com> or please feel free to email bensongardeningclub@gmail.com

Liz Harrison



WE NEED YOUR HELP

**Sobell House & Katharine House Hospices
are currently recruiting for volunteers.**



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In **Katharine House and Sobell House Hospice**, we need Bereavement Volunteers and Volunteer Companions, they are needed to help support our patients and families in the community and on both In-patient Units.

If you are interested in finding out more or would like an application form, please contact us at [PallcareVolunteerServices@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto: PallcareVolunteerServices@ouh.nhs.uk).

John Howell MP writes ...

Just before schools returned, and the long-awaited sunshine arrived, we hit the problem of the safety of school buildings due to concerns over reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC). The potential disruption to education and the timing of the problem caused inevitable and understandable frustration. The Department for Education had been working to identify buildings which may have RAAC over the last year, and the advice had been to take RAAC areas out of use immediately if assessed by surveyors as 'critical'. Where they were assessed by surveyors as 'non-critical', the risk was not considered sufficient to require that these spaces be taken out of use. However, that position changed following cases that came to light over the summer and at the end of August, the Department for Education advised all establishments with buildings with RAAC confirmed by a surveyor to take the affected space out of use until suitable mitigations have been put in place. Whilst the concern was widespread thankfully once the list of affected places was published, I was relieved to see that no schools in this constituency were affected.

Following the media coverage of the introduction of Ultra Low Emission Zones (ULEZ), I received several emails from constituents raising concerns on what is being seen by some as a war on motorists. I appreciate that numerous residents in this area travel to London on a regular basis. Clean Air Zones focus on vehicle emissions and have a specific target of trying to improve air quality in problem areas. The ULEZ in London means that for those who do not have a compatible vehicle, there is now a charge of £12.50 a day to drive in these zones. As we have seen in the High Court challenge, the size of the zone and the unavoidable negative economic impact on some residents makes the scheme contentious. The decision to introduce the scheme was entirely that of the Mayor of London, is funded through local taxation, and not one over which Parliament has any say. The media reports of the Mayor of London seeking to hide research from Imperial College that questioned the beneficial environmental impact of the scheme, simply led to the claims that it is nothing more than an anti-motorist cash cow. It is not difficult to see why motorists feel that 'war' is being declared on them.

From early days as an MP, I have been very clear that, particularly in rural areas, a car is not a luxury; it is an essential means of transport. Whilst we can argue for more public transport, the geography and nature of people movement will always make it a challenge to provide an efficient and economic system that meets the diverse travel needs. Sadly, when measures are introduced that seem to be excessive it leads to other more genuine measures being challenged too. Tackling air pollution is nothing new. Since the middle of the 20th century regulatory frameworks have tried to address such issues, and as we have learned more, this has been refined. The most recent Government Clean Air Strategy 2019 complements the Industrial Strategy, the Clean Growth strategy, and the 25 Year Environment Plan. However, the whole strategy is not just aimed at motorists, it is much wider.

I know that that online safety is a concern for many constituents, especially parents. The Online Safety Bill, which seeks to make the UK the safest place to go online, has taken some time going through parliamentary process due to some concerns over restriction. Some people called for it to be completely dropped. At the end of last year, MPs agreed to recommit certain Clauses and Schedules of the Bill to further scrutiny. The Bill finally completed its stages in the House of Lords earlier this month and returned to the Commons with amendments.

If there is a particular issue that concerns you, please do share your thoughts.

If you would like to know more about my work on behalf of the Government, and in the Constituency, please do look at my website. The address is www.johnhowell.org.uk. My contact details are also on the website.

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WHAT'S ON — OCTOBER 2023

Regular events and meetings

Tuesdays and Thursdays	14.00—16.00	Short Mat Bowls	Crowmarsh Gifford Pavillion
Thursdays	19.30 onwards	Wallingford Photographic Club	Crowmarsh Gifford Pavilion
Every Friday	9.30-12.00	Wallingford Country Market	St Mary-le-More Church, Wallingford
Every Saturday	10.00-12.00	WAGS Store open	Centre 70, Wallingford
Every Saturday	10.00-12.30	Local Producers' Market	St Mary-le-More Church or Wallingford Market Place
Every Sunday	11.00 onwards	Parish Communion. Family service on the first Sunday of the month	St Mary Magdalene's Church, Crowmarsh Gifford
Various days	Differing times	Didcot and Wallingford Ramblers	www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford
Various days	Differing times	CTC Wallingford cycle rides	www.ctcwallingford.org.uk/
Various days	Differing times	Cholsey and Wallingford Heritage Railway	www.cholsey-wallingford-railway.com

This month

Tuesday 3rd	19.30 onwards	Sustainable Wallingford Meeting	Friends Meeting House, Castle St. Wallingford
Wednesday 4th	14.00 onwards	U3A: The Life of a Lady (Sue) Ryder 'A Life Lived for Others'	Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall
Thursday 5th	19.30 onwards	Crowmarsh Parish Council Meeting	North Stoke Village Hall
Wednesday 11th	20.00 onwards	TWHAS: Anthony Wilder: 'Victorian Artists'	St Mary-le-More Church, Wallingford
Thursday 12th	17.15—19.15	London Film Music Orchestra	Dorchester Abbey
Friday 13th	19.00 onwards	"Quiz n' Chips" quiz night	St Magdalene's Church, Crowmarsh Gifford
Saturday 14th	10.30—12.30	Crowmarsh Community Café	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Saturday 14th	19.00—21.00	Russian Masters Music	Dorchester Abbey
Thursday 26th—Sunday 29th	Various times	Hallowe'en Trains	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway

November

Wednesday 1st	14.00 onwards	U3A: The Brinks Mat Robbery	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 2nd	19.30 onwards	Crowmarsh Parish Council Meeting	Crowmarsh Gifford
Saturday 4th	9.30—15.30	Benson Choral Society Workshop	The Great Hall Cholsey