

Dorchester News

Free to every home in the parish

March 2018





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Cover picture: Dorchester Abbey tower by Frank Blackwell ©Frank Blackwell

**Deadline for
April
Dorchester News**



email:

dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

A DoT view

I would normally try to avoid having similar pictures on the front cover on successive issues. Last month's picture featured the Abbey tower, as does this month's. That is because this month's is a wonderfully vibrant picture by Frank Blackwell, which I have chosen in his memory following his recent sad death. Frank was a great supporter of the recent changes that we have made to Dorchester News. In particular, he advised and helped me with the front page photographs and generously donated some of his fine pictures for the front cover, including this one. There will be a tribute to Frank in the next issue, but this is my tribute to thank him for the help and guidance he provided to me.

Also this month we remember Dr Perter Pritchard. There is a two page memorial to Peter in the centre pages this month. I had hoped to write a feature about him for his 100th birthday later this year, but that was not to be and this celebration of his life is in its stead. Peter was a central part of Dorchester for so many years, having come here in 1951. He was also an authority on the NHS and was interviewed by the Daily Telegraph for his views on the current state of the NHS just shortly before his death. We have a thorough tribute to Peter by Eley McAinsh, editor of his memoir *An Eventful Life*. It certainly was.

Ian Brace

Editorial Team

Ian Brace, Steph Cook

Distribution Co-ordinator

Maurice Day

Printed by: Higgs of Henley



Talking Point

Canon Sue Booy

How are you getting on this Lent?

I'm writing to you just before lent begins so at the moment everyone's mind is focused on what they might give up - however by the time you read this you may be doing well - or not. Or, of course, you may have decided on a dry or vegan January and be giving Lent a miss!

The ancient purpose behind giving something up for Lent is that by doing so I will draw closer to the Creator, the ground of my being, to God. This might be alcohol to clear my mind, it might be chocolate - to purify my body. It may be increased service of my neighbour in whose service I believe I am serving God. Whatever it is the purpose is to understand better my relationship with God and creation and to

make a habit of it so that each Lent builds on the last. Apparently it takes about six weeks to establish a habit so Lenten timing is good - if you're doing well keep at it!

Listening to an art gallery commentary recently I heard an artist say that the purpose of art was not to be looked at or commented but to be stood in the presence of. In other words don't work too hard - allow the art to speak for itself, to speak direct to your heart.

This year, Lent began on St Valentine's Day. A recent piece of research showed that couples who stayed together were ones who were able to be silent together. Do you ever take time to simply look at your beloved - to take delight in the gift that person brings to your heart and life?

During the rest of Lent, however you've been doing so far, why not take a bit of time just to 'be' in the presence of the Spirit of God whatever that might mean to you and allow yourself to soak it up without overthinking.

...and when you've gazed for a while there is a simple question to ask. 'Where is God, or Gods spirit in my life?'

Whatever your answer the question is worth asking every so often and Lent is a particularly good time to ask it! There aren't any right answers and sometimes it's a question that just raises more questions!

I'm enjoying the curiosity this year that Lent began on Valentine's Day and ends on April Fools Day. Yes, Easter is on 1st April. What do I make of that? Do ask - or join us on Easter Day!

Lent Groups

Malcolm and Sue Lucas will be hosting a Lent House Group on three Tuesday evenings starting at 7.45pm. Please phone them on **341502** for further details It's not too late to read the short daily readings in 'Abundant Life' Bishop Steven's Lent book.

Lent lunches March

- 2 March** Carolyn Oakley 24 Bridge End
- 9 March** Dawn Dudley Church House, Queen Street
- 16 March** Julie Taylor The Manor House, Overy
- 23 March** Catherine Paul 3 Haven Close
- 30 March** Judy Parker Abbey Guest House

All lunches are from 12.30pm-2.00pm except Good Friday (30th) which is at 12.00noon-1.00pm

Your contributions this year will be sent to Helen House, Oxford.

This hospice which provides specialist palliative care and end of life care to children is struggling financially and would welcome help.

Lent Appeal



As we approach a time of joyful celebration in the Church calendar we ask if you might consider doing something for international relations...making a small but significant contribution towards greater understanding worldwide.

HOST's mission is to give a welcome to international students in British homes for friendship and cultural exchange. Our volunteer hosts can offer hospitality for one day (daytime only) or three days and two nights at the weekend.

Lent

As we celebrate Easter on 1 April several important days happen in March in a way that doesn't entirely fit the Abbey's normal service pattern - for March only we have changed the service pattern as follows:

4 March Lent 3

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Caroline King)
- 10.30am Eucharist with hymns
- 6.00pm Sung Mass

11 March Mothering Sunday

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Canon Sue Booy)
- 10.30 am Mothering Sunday

18 March Lent 5

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Canon Sue Booy)
- 10.30am Sung Eucharist
- 5.00pm Evensong

25 March Palm Sunday

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Canon Sue Booy)
- 10.30am Family Service
- 6.00pm Team Service

We look forward to welcoming you most especially for Mothering Sunday on **11 March** which will be a service in which we give thanks for all those who have mothered us - and for the Church as our mother.

We operate all year round and would very much welcome more volunteer hosts to join us.

More information can be found on website: www.hostuk.org
Or email: info@hostuk.org Telephone: **020 7739 6292**.



EASTER LILIES 2018



As we look forward to celebrating one of the most important festivals of the church, the Abbey flower arranging team invite you to participate by making a contribution towards the cost of flowers which we will use to decorate the Abbey at this joyous season.

Perhaps you would consider making this a donation in memory of a loved one whose name would be displayed close to the Easter Lilies, the centrepiece arrangement.

Please complete the form below and send it to me:
Sandie Griffith, 7 Castle Close, Benson OX10 6SN 01491 832598

or hand it to one of the flower arranging team - Cathy Glass, Helen Wigmore, Susan Jupp, Vera Baker

.....

Name

Contact phone number

Amount of donation

Donation in memory of

Neighbourhood Development Plan

STOP PRESS - a drop in session will be held in the Village Hall for residents who would like to know more details about the NDP on **Tuesday 13 March** between 6.00pm and 8.00pm.
STOP PRESS

Easter Day

As always we look forward to celebrating Easter with as large a crowd of the Church family as possible. The Easter Fire will be lit outside (weather permitting) and we will process to the Abbey from the Cloister Garden for the 10.30am service. A special service of celebration will be held at 5.00pm to give thanks for the work of the Reverend William Macfarlane for the village and to mark the clearing of his grave in the Church Yard.

Please see Professor Malcolm Airs' article on the Reverend MacFarlane in the February edition.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on **Sun 8 April** after Sung Eucharist.

Dorchester Lunch Club

The lunch Club dates in March are: **Wednesday 14 March** and **Wednesday 28 March** (which will be the last one until starting again on October 10). If you are a regular member but know you are unable to attend either of the above dates, please let Susan Jupp know by the preceding Monday that you are unable to come.

Susan Jupp
341066

Visit to Wells

Friends of Dorchester Abbey

This year, the annual visit of The Friends of Dorchester Abbey will be to Wells and will take place on **Monday 14 May**. The cost of £30 per person will include the coach travel and a guided tour of the beautiful Cathedral.



There will be more information in next month's Dorchester News and Abbey Friends will receive more details in the Friends Spring Newsletter. I'm putting this brief notice in the current Dorchester News so that anyone who might be interested may take note of the date.

Yvonne Lawden



Could you help a child to read and change their life forever?

Volunteers needed

ARCh (Assisted Reading for Children) is a local registered charity which operates in Oxfordshire primary schools to help children who are struggling with reading.

All it takes is one and a half hours twice a week during the school day as an ARCh volunteer in a primary school near you.

Full training is given and we provide ongoing support and reimburse travel expenses.

To find out more, visit our website
www.archoxfordshire.org.uk

Or telephone us on **01869 320380**

The charity obtains enhanced DBS checks on all volunteers before placement
Registered Charity Number 1146276



Volunteers are currently required for Dorchester and Berinsfield schools as well as elsewhere.



As the new season starts to get going, March is now under way; day length has increased, weeds are growing, slowly but they are moving; plot preparation for the coming season for your planting, digging in plenty of organic matter and some clearing may still be needed.

When cleaning your plot please refrain from dumping waste from it and placing it on other members plots or adding it to some of the mounds which have developed over the years. We are planning to spread and clean up these piles.

Next Committee meeting is early March. If members have any matters they feel need consideration, please let me know.

There is still time to winter prune fruit bushes and raspberry canes, chitting seed potatoes and forcing rhubarb. Planting and sowing to consider broad beans, garlic, rhubarb crowns, shallot sets, onion sets, turnips and peas, cabbage summer and autumn, calabrese, leeks, lettuce, parsnips, spring onions, spinach, sprouting broccoli.

Crops to sow under cover

Beetroot, carrots, cucumbers, radish, salad leaves, rocket.

(Indoors aubergines, chillies and peppers, celeriac, celery, tomatoes, sweet potato slips)

March Pests and Diseases: Slugs can be troublesome even now.

An important note: Please do not put eggshells/household waste on your compost heap it attracts vermin.

Newsletter

The first Newsletter should be in your box, if you have not received this please send me your email.

We have professional grade weed mat which is available 4m wide and sold by the linear metre at £2.50 per linear metre. (Example 4m x 10m = £25.00)

Plots available full and half size. Please call: **01865 340119** or email: stu@horted.co.uk

Stuart Poole,



Dorchester on Thames



The WI have booked a coach to go to visit Highclere Castle on **Thursday 9 August** but there will be several spaces on the coach for other people to come too (men as well as women would be most welcome).

If you would like to come please let me know as soon as possible, a group booking is much cheaper than individual bookings. The cost will be £30 which is for the coach and entry ticket to Highclere seeing inside the castle and the gardens and the Egyptian Exhibition.. We will leave Dorchester at 12.00noon and leave Highclere Castle at 5.30 pm to return to Dorchester.

As I need to confirm the provisional group booking I have already made at least 8 weeks before we go, it is very important that you let me know as soon as possible that you would like to come.

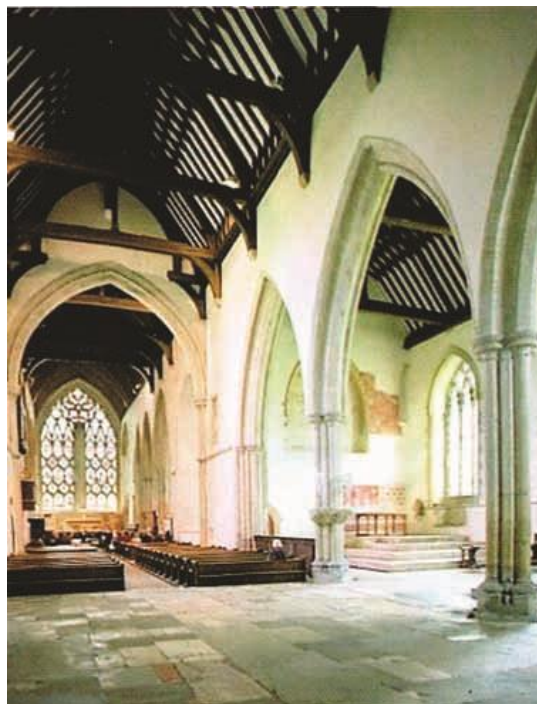
Susan Jupp

Email: susan@jupp13dot.force9.co.uk
Phone: **01865 341066**

Welcoming visitors to our abbey

In our village we have a wonderful abbey church and one of my great pleasures is to welcome people to look round it. If you haven't been in the abbey lately you might like to visit the website www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk where you can take a virtual tour.

I am one of a group of volunteer stewards who each spend a couple of hours once a month in the summer, on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon, welcoming visitors. Some visitors are keen on the history of the place (parts of which go back 900 years), some enjoy the peace and quiet, some come for the artwork or the occasional musical performance, and some come because they took part in the annual Festival of Voices when they were at school. Whatever their reason for visiting I am sure that a welcoming face is appreciated .



To be an abbey steward does not mean you have to be religious, or an expert in church architecture. All you need is the capacity to enjoy the place and be prepared to share your pleasure with visitors. New stewards are well supported and there are plenty of helpful (and knowledgeable) people around to get you started. You are not expected to 'fly solo' until you are ready!

If you think you might like to join us, or just have a look round the abbey, please get in touch.

Tim Cook
01865 340314

tim.cook12@btinternet.com



St Birinus Primary School News

As I write this we have just announced January's 'Writer of the Month' children for each class.

- Hedgehog Class: Delilah Budd, Juvanita Johnson
- Squirrel Class: Harry Ferry, Zachary Obeng
- Fox Class: Daniel Brooks, Axl-Zayvier Taylor
- Owl Class: Thomas Lester, Phoebe De-Maine

This term the writing has been inspired by a Fantasy theme, which started with the children coming in dressed as witches, wizards and mythical creatures. It was great to see. I know there is more dressing up to come especially with World Book Day on the horizon.

Thinking about books, within school, we are always looking for volunteers to listen to the children read, if you have any spare time on a regular basis and would like to come and share some books with the children, please do come in and speak to me. It would be great to continue to build our links with the community.

Usually at the end of the Spring Term, the PTA hold the School's Easter Fair. As Easter falls earlier this year, the clocks will have not have moved forward the hour, therefore the fair will be moving to a new slot – more information will follow next month. However, our Easter Service will still be happening on Maundy Thursday (our last day of term) – **Thursday 29 March** at 9:15am in the Abbey – I hope you will be able to join us for our celebration of Easter – all are welcome

Russell Leigh
Headteacher

Dorchester St Birinus CE Primary School



BERINSFIELD LIBRARY

Visit your Local Library
and see what we have on offer
Easter craft Afternoon
Wednesday April 4th 3.45pm

Rhymes for the Under 5's Wednesdays 10.30am

Storytime Wednesdays 3.45pm

I.T Help Thursdays 2.00pm

Knit and Natter
6th March 2.30pm

Reading Group
8th March 2.00pm

Coffee Morning
20th March 10.30am
All Welcome

Vote for DoT Neighbourhood Development Plan 15 March Village Hall

It's not often that I feel the need to write a second editorial. Usually the couple of hundred words that I get on page 2 are enough for what I want to say. This month, however, there is a subject to which I want to use the editor's prerogative to devote a second column to.

For some time, more than five years, there has been in gestation a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the parish of Dorchester on Thames. There have been consultations, meetings, and displays, often well attended, that have guided the team putting the Plan together so that they have come up with a view as how most of the residents want the village to develop and grow, and grow it is bound to.

This is now summarised in the NDP which has been looked at by SODC and by the government inspectors and passed fit. Now it is the turn of Dorchester's residents to have our final say as to whether we want it or not in a referendum being held on **15 March**.

The Parish Council are urging us to turn out and vote but they cannot suggest how we should vote; they are not allowed to lead us to one conclusion or the other.

I, though, would urge as many people as possible to turn out and vote in favour of the NDP. A vote in favour of the NDP will mean that it will have to be taken into account when planners assess future planning applications.

Without this, we will continue to have little say in determining future planning applications.

Two years ago many people turned out for a meeting to protest against possible development of the Demesne Field. We were assured at the time by SODC that there were no plans to remove the field from the Green Belt and it would therefore not be built on. But Green Belt status is not sacrosanct, as Culham have found out, where approval has been given by SODC to build 3,500 houses on former Green Belt land. And the Demesne Field would be a classic site for in-filling between the village and the bypass. SODC could change its mind about de-classifying it as Green Belt, but not if that is against our NDP, and our NDP envisages this becoming a Conservation Area, thus giving it stronger protection.

Benson, too, had no defence against developers because they did not have a NDP.

Our NDP does not mean no new development. It encourages small scale developments, particularly where they include affordable homes. But without the NDP the Parish Council were unable to protest against the proposal to build executive homes at the Belcher Court site which has recently been passed by SODC, when they would have preferred affordable housing for young families.

Download and read our NDP at www.dorchester-on-thames.co.uk/ndp. It is thorough and well worth the read.

I urge everyone then to go out and vote in favour of our NDP on 15 March.

Ian Brace
Editor

Dorchester on Thames Historical Society

Wednesday 28 March 2018,

7.30pm, Village Hall

Members free, Visitors welcome (£3)

Professor Malcolm Airs will talk about:

A noble plan that failed: Pier Luigi and the Pitt Rivers Museum



The proposal in 1966 to build a new Pitt Rivers museum in Oxford by the internationally renowned Italian architect and engineer Pier Luigi Nervi elicited great excitement amongst architectural critics. But it also encouraged the conservation movement to campaign for the preservation of Victorian North Oxford and encountered strong opposition from parts of the University establishment. Ultimately it proved impossible to raise the enormous sums required and the Pitt Rivers remained on its current site. This lecture will explore the fascinating story and the individuals behind the proposal and the reasons that it never happened.

As a regular speaker and our honorary President, Malcolm needs no introduction to Historical Society members; we have enjoyed many fascinating talks and his walks around the village have given us new insight into our community and its buildings. He is a long-term Dorchester resident, was SODC's first Conservation Officer, and is Emeritus Professor of the History of the Built Environment at Oxford University.

The Society welcomes new members and visitors – do come along and find out more!

Culham & District Horticultural Club



Meetings are held at the Abbey Guest House,
Dorchester-on-Thames at 7.30pm

Wednesday 21 March 2018

**Plant Hunting in Manipur and Burma – in the footsteps
of Frank Kingdom Ward by Paul Barney**

There will be plants for sale at the meeting.

Membership is open to all those who have a keen interest in horticulture (annual subscription £15) and visitors are welcome at the meeting (suggested donation £3). For more details telephone **01235 850381** or email

judy@tigercat.me.uk

Dorchester on Thames Historical Society Summer Outing Saturday 30 June



This year we will be visiting Lacock Abbey and village including the Fox Talbot Museum.

Lacock Abbey, founded in 1232 by Ela of Salisbury, was originally a nunnery and over the years has become a family home. The Museum is named after William Henry Fox Talbot who created the first photographic negative and established this as the birthplace of photography. There is plenty to see and do at this National Trust property.

Further details to follow in the April Dorchester News.

Gail Thomas (**01865 341977** or gail.thomas8@btinternet.com)

JEM

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Have you seen the signs?

According to rightmove , In House sell more Dorchester properties than any other agent!

Owned and run by a Dorchester resident, In House are pleased to offer discounted selling or letting rates to fellow residents!

Call **01491 839999** or visit our website to book your free valuation

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www.georgehoteloxfordshire.co.uk

To reserve your table please call 01865 340404

Save the Fleur Update



In the meantime we have identified a probable substantial source of loan finance, which we believe would add to the attraction of another appeal for shares and loans to reach our target.

However, that source would only support us if the price of the freehold is substantially reduced to the figure we based our business case on (less than £500,000). That is well below the asking price of £655,000.

We have discussed all this with the vendor of the Fleur, and possible options for bridging the gap between us have been explored. But the difference is at present far too large to bridge. The vendor has put the Fleur back on the market at £655,000, which given our differences of view about its present value as a pub we think is the right course of action.

The risk for us is that the pub will be sold to someone more interested in its possible value as a residential development, and willing to pay more than it is worth as a pub. That is a risk we have to accept, as any bid we make has to be financially viable in terms of the Fleur continuing to run as a pub indefinitely. We judge that

The campaign has ground to a halt and is suspended pending developments.

In the December Dorchester News we reported on the outcome of the public meeting in November. To recap briefly, the proposal is that:

- the pub should be bought, financed by stable capital, able to withstand short term fluctuations in the business;
- let the pub to an experienced tenant, on terms that enable him to profit from success;
- put the community in control, so that the tenancy agreement reflects community desires, and the tenant benefits from a reservoir of local customer support;
- the financial target is to raise £550,000, to cover purchase of the freehold, other equipment, acquisition costs and a contingency;
- our business case concludes that this could be done by issuing shares to members of the community with a total value of £250,000, on which modest interest could be expected, supplemented by borrowing from members of the community of up to £300,000 of 10 year loans repayable in annual instalments, also attracting modest interest.

We appealed for loan pledges in December, requesting those who had pledged shares to consider pledging an equal amount or more in loans. The outcome of this appeal was very disappointing. This may have been because it was made too near to Christmas, or that people were confused by our publicity. But we were certainly unable to exploit the enthusiasm evident at the November public meeting.

at present we cannot raise our target value safely.

The vendor will wish to test the market thoroughly before considering us as potential bidders. It is therefore likely to be some time before we will be able to rekindle the project. In the meantime, our efforts to transform the Fleur into a community pub are suspended.

Our project has always been to convert the Fleur into a genuinely community owned pub. Widespread ownership in our view is the best way of assuring its long term future as a pub. An alternative approach would be to regard it as a commercial investment, involving fewer investors willing to take a greater risk, aware that if they could not make it work as a pub, they could enjoy probable capital gains from its eventual redevelopment for residential purposes. This approach would be for others to explore; it is too far away from community ownership for the working group to take further.

It was always a long shot to raise anywhere near the asking price from a village, and we are very grateful to the many pledgers of shares and loans. The story is not yet ended, and if the asking price is substantially reduced we will bring the project back to life. In the meantime, we very much hope the vendor will find a buyer who is genuine in wanting to continue to run the Fleur as our village local.

Questions or comments? - contact info@friendsofthefleur.com

RULES

1. The Show is open to any person residing in Dorchester-on-Thames, Burcot, Drayton St Leonard and Berinsfield.
2. No exhibitor may exhibit more than one exhibit in each class, excepting Classes 14 & 21, where three entries may be made.
3. All entry forms, together with fees, to be submitted **not later than 7.00 pm on Thursday evening** before the show.
4. Entries in Classes 16 & 17 must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least the previous 4 months. Other plant classes with the exception of Classes 23 & 24 must have been grown by the exhibitor. Classes 25 - 37 must be made by the exhibitor.
5. Exhibitors must provide their own dishes, stands etc. Every care will be taken of the exhibits but the committee will not be held responsible for loss or damage.
6. On the relative merits of the exhibits, the opinion of the judges shall be final, but the committee reserves to itself the decision on any other points in dispute.
7. The Committee reserves the right to inspect any competitor's garden or allotment before or after the day of the show.
8. **All exhibits for competition must be staged between 9.00 am and 10.30 am on the day of the show.**
9. All competitors must leave their exhibits on show until after the Prize giving and raffle and clear immediately afterwards.
10. Any protests must be made in writing before 3.00 pm on the day of the Show, accompanied by 50p. deposit which shall be forfeited to the Committee if the protest is not upheld and found to be groundless.
11. Any exhibitor infringing any of these rules shall forfeit all claims to any prize.

Definitions

Class 1: Long trumpet: one flower on a stem; trumpet as long or longer than petals.
 Class 2: Short trumpet or cup: one flower on a stem; trumpet shorter than petals.
 Classes 23 & 24: Any natural material may be used.

**Please label varieties whenever possible
 Please note Rule 4**

**DORCHESTER-ON-THAMES
 SPRING FLOWER SHOW**

and
Plant Sale/Raffle

DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

on
Saturday 7th April 2018

Staging 9.00 am – 10.30 am
 Viewing 2.30 pm- 4.00 pm

Prizes will be presented at 3.40 pm
 followed by Raffle Draw

Exhibitors will be competing for:

- The Robert Soffe Cup (Long Trumpet Daffodils)
- Short Trumpet Daffodil Cup
- The Helen Belcher Cup (Pot Plant)
- Vegetable Cup, Spring Flowers Cup
- Domestic Classes Cup
- Britain in Bloom Cup
- The Blackwell Photography Cup
- Certificates for Floral Art and Vegetables
- Mary Tame Handicraft Plate

Class

- 1) Daffodils, long trumpet 1 variety - 5 stems
- 2) Daffodils/Narcissi, short trumpet or cup, 1 variety - 5 stems
- 3) Daffodils/Narcissi, miniature, 1 variety - 5 stems
- 4) Daffodils, double - 5 stems
- 5) Narcissi, multiple heads - 5 stems
- 6) Narcissi/short trumpet daffodils - 5 stems, 1 of each variety
- 7) Tulips, 1 variety - 3 stems
- 8) Blossom from a tree or shrub, 1 variety - 3 sprays
- 9) Blossom from a tree or shrub, 3 varieties - 1 stem each
- 10) Polyanthus - 5 stems, mixed colours allowed
- 11) Pansies/Violas - 5 stems, mixed colours allowed
- 12) Hellebores, 1 variety - 3 stems.
- 13) Hyacinths, 1 variety - 3 stems
- 14) Any other spring flower, 1 variety - 3 stems (up to 3 entries)
- 15) Mixed Spring Flowers, 5 stems

- 16) Plant, flowering or not, in pot not more than 10" - not exhibited in last 3 years.
- 17) Bulb or bowl of bulbs of same variety, not more than 10" pot.
- 18) Leeks - 3
- 19) Stored Onions - 5
- 20) Stored Shallots - 7
- 21) Any other vegetable or fruit (up to 3 entries)
- 22) Rhubarb - 3 sticks

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

- 23) An arrangement in a basket (forward facing, W18"xH18"xD12")
- 24) An arrangement in a coffee cup (space 6" x 6" x 6")

COOKERY

- 25) Coffee cake
- 26) Dundee cake
- 27) Savoury bread
- 28) Scotch eggs - 3
- 29) Flap jacks - 5
- 30) Pot of marmalade

PHOTOGRAPHS - all unmounted and not exhibited previously.

- Conventional or digital camera
- Must not be manipulated or enhanced in any way. Max 8" x 6"*
- 31) Water
- 32) Subject beginning with 'A'

Image manipulation - up to A4
 33) Any subject

HANDICRAFTS

- 34) Any item of needlecraft, incl knitting
- 35) Any other handcrafted item

CHILDREN (Please state age on exhibit)

Aged 9 and over:
 36) Treasure map (not to exceed 12" x 12")

Aged 8 and under:
 37) Drawing of the Abbey (not to exceed 12" x 12")

ENTRY FORM

Please return no later than **7.00 p.m. Thursday, 5th April** to: Christina Stores, 55 High Street

Class Nos

Full name of Exhibitor

Address.....

Telephone No Entry Fee 5p. per Class

Email address (for Flower Show reminders and schedule only).....

The Airman and the Police House. A story of discovery

We have been contacted by Dr Walter Powell of Plymouth Massachusetts who is an historian of the US 8th Air Force. He is researching the history of Richard Schlayer who died in 1993 and who had a Dorchester connection. Dr Powell writes:

'During WWII Schlayer served as a Sergeant with the 7th Photo Reconnaissance Group of the 8th Air Force based at nearby Mount Farm. He became friends with a family who lived in 'Police Cottage.' In 1948 both Larry and Vera (husband and wife) sent separate letters to Richard and his wife Evelyn thanking them for many parcels they had sent- especially in light of the food rationing and shortages that were in place in England at the time. They also exchanged photos.'

Dr Powell did not know the surnames of Larry and Vera, but did know they had daughters Margaret, who was about four in 1948, and Patricia, about 11 months then.

He would like to share the memorabilia that he has with the family of Larry and Vera and asked for our help in identifying them and getting in touch with the family.

It didn't take too long. Denise Line identified them as her mother's friend and brother's godmother, Vera Fitzgerald, and her husband Larry, who worked with Denise's father. And Denise is still in touch with the little girl in the pram. We are now delighted to be able to put Dr Powell in touch with the family.

If you have more information, in particular about Sergeant Richard Schlayer, contact Dorchester News (dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk).



Richard Schlayer and Larry, probably outside of the house in Oxford Road.



Vera and Larry with Patricia



Sergeant Schlayer with his wife Evelyn taken in autumn 1945 on his return to the US.



Vera and Patricia in Oxford Road

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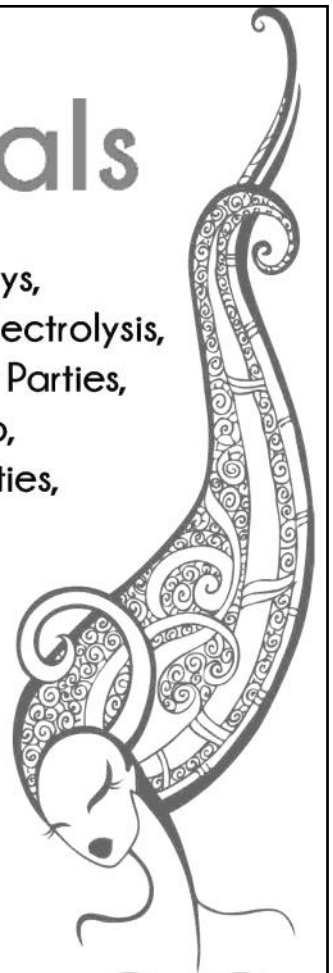
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Saturday 17-Sunday 18 and Saturday 24-Sunday 25 March, 10.00am-4.00pm

Earth Trust is throwing open the gates to our working farm at our annual fundraising festival! Join us for some farmyard fun during our popular Lambing Weekends: there'll be lambs, piglets and goats to meet, plus bale climbing, tractor and trailer rides, craft activities and more. Refreshments available. £8 adult, £5 child; £22 family (2 adults + 2 children); discount for online tickets – see www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson.



Meet the Shepherd

Tuesday 20 March, 4.00pm -5.00pm

FRIENDS EXCLUSIVE!

Emma Blomfield will introduce our Friends to some of the new arrivals in

the lambing shed. Find out what it takes to be a shepherd at this very busy time of year! Free (Earth Trust Friends only); booking essential: call **01865 407792** during office hours or email supportus@earthtrust.org.uk.

As always, more information can be found on our website www.earthtrust.org.uk. All events take place at the Earth Trust, Little Wittenham, OX14 4QZ unless otherwise stated. There are lots of exciting events coming up 2018, including some that are exclusively for Earth Trust Friends – find out more about becoming a Friend at www.earthtrust.org.uk/joinus



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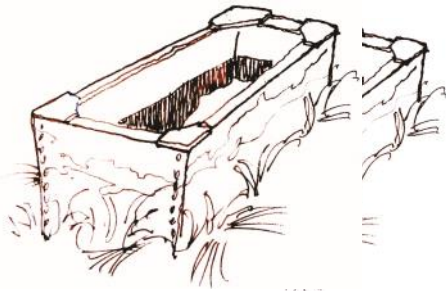
**SAVE THIS DATE:
THURSDAY APRIL 26
THE GUEST HOUSE**

For one night only a performance and exhibition of *Allotment*, the collaborative work of author Jan Harvey and theatre maker Adrian Brooks.

Based on Dorchester's Hempcroft *Allotment* the performance will include readings of Jan's specially written short stories by Dorchester actors Sue Kitson and Mark Williams, including *Raven* and *The She Wolf*. These will be accompanied by a special exhibition of Adrian's *Allotment Theatres* made in collaboration with Jan. There will also be a sale of both the accompanying book and booklet, refreshments and an invitation to contribute to a unique online *Allotment Stories*.

Due to limited space, places must be reserved. These can be booked from March 20 by e-mailing adrianhbrooks@hotmail.com or tel **01865 340792**. Payment is £5 at the door including refreshments.

Allotment is in support of SANDS, a charity offering bereavement support and professional care to those affected by the loss of a stillborn or newly born baby.



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Wallingford and surrounding villages covered

Dr Peter Michael Maddock Pritchard 19 May 1918 - 6 January 2018

Dr Peter Pritchard came to Dorchester in 1951 when he joined the practice of Drs Harris and Griffiths. As their new assistant, and with his background in paediatrics, Peter assumed responsibility for the dilapidated hatted camps on the former RAF airfield nearby. This site would become increasingly important to him in the years to come as brand new houses replaced the huts and the community of Berinsfield was born.

Not many people work for more years after 'retirement' than before, but Peter did. He remained professionally active to the very end of his life and had just published his memoir, *'An Eventful Life'*, and written a detailed critique of the current state of the NHS: 'The NHS is heading for bankruptcy – how can it be prevented?' Having witnessed the entire trajectory of the NHS to date, he was almost uniquely qualified to comment.

Intensely private and modest to a fault, he was a remarkable man whose interests, influence and renown extended far beyond the normal bounds of a village GP. It was particularly poignant that a long interview with him by the respected biographer Peter Stanford appeared in the Telegraph three days after he died, at the age of 99. Shortly before Christmas he was presented with the Royal College of General Practitioners' Certificate of Commendation for 'outstanding contributions to the discipline of general practice and primary care'.



Born in London in the middle of a Zeppelin raid on 19 May 1918, he was the youngest child of Hilda Caldwell Smith and Major Jack Pritchard, an airship pilot with the Royal Naval Air Service. Major Pritchard was the first to fly the Atlantic east to west on the airship R34, landing in the USA by parachute to take charge of the mooring. He was killed in the R38 disaster in 1921, leaving his widow to bring up their three young children on her own. Peter spoke recently of her example: 'It was undoubtedly my mother who had the greatest influence on my thinking and priorities... it was very tough for a widow with a young family. I saw how hard she worked on our behalf and how as a single parent she was socially isolated, and yet she was extremely public spirited and did a huge amount of

voluntary work and that instilled in me an abiding sense of service.'

As a baby, Peter lived for a while in a house in Belgravia once owned by Noel Coward. The family moved to Hertfordshire after the war but returned to London after Peter's father's death. They later moved to Hastings. Peter attended a number of schools and despite his love for Classics, went on to study medicine at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and St Thomas's, London. While at Cambridge he was a member of the Cambridge Spitzbergen Expedition, confirming a life-long fascination with Nordic lands and a taste for adventure. He qualified in 1942, having won the Solly Medal in Medicine.

For a holiday 'break' in 1940 he went to the Kent hop fields as a member of a medical mission, to care for the hop-pickers: East Enders who travelled to Kent in their hundreds, for their annual summer holiday. The farmer accommodated them in huts and there were some communal facilities and a small medical hut. Later that summer, at the height of the Blitz, the horizon glowed red as the East End burned. The hop-pickers looked on, distressed but stoic, as their homes, their streets, and their livelihoods were reduced to ash and rubble. Their composure and resilience left a deep and lasting impression on Peter and would guide some later choices and decisions.



Three months after qualifying he joined the RAMC and a short time later was landed by glider behind enemy lines in Burma. There he served in gruelling conditions as Medical Officer with General Wingate's special forces, the legendary Chindits. He was mentioned in dispatches and promoted to Major. He held his patients, including Scouse muleteers, fearless radio operators and Kachin hill people, in the highest regard. He was less impressed with those officers who were careless of their men's health and did not hesitate to say so.

Peter survived untold deprivations in the Burmese jungle, in part by discipline and common sense: he always took his anti-malarials when it was far from the norm to do so and on long marches he prevented trench-foot by drying his socks over the dying embers of the campfire. He shrugged off danger: unwitting encounters with tigers and crocodiles, runaway horses, leaky boats, a rabies scare and a vaccine so toxic his own doctor would have refused it. To his last days he cavilled at a departing visitor's cheery 'Take care!' 'Don't say that,' he said, 'say 'take a risk!''

Peter married Daphne Witherby, a physiotherapist and the youngest daughter of the renowned British ornithologist Harry Forbes Witherby, on home leave in February 1943. Their first child, Wendy, was born in 1946, with Rosemary following in 1947 and James in 1953.

On return to civilian life he worked in paediatrics at Great Ormond Street and University College Hospital, with some of the leading medics of the day. But the war had disrupted his training and his career took a different path than he might otherwise have planned. He came to Dorchester on an innovative GP training scheme and found himself very at home with the camp residents, impressed by their resilience and concerned to do what he could to improve their living conditions.

Peter took an active part in the development of the new village of Berinsfield, built on the site of the old huts, and moved the practice there, to the first purpose built health centre in the county, when he became senior partner in 1970. Here, with his partners, he pioneered team working and the training of practice nurses, and set up the first Patient Participation Group in the country.



He is still fondly remembered by some of the original camp dwellers, including Pat Grant, who was ten years old when her family, originally from Croydon, was one of the first to move out of the huts and into a new house:

'I remember when my brother was a child and he had a seizure and my mother went to Dr Pritchard. He came right away and was so helpful and caring towards us. He gave a lot of his time to care for others... The doctors surgery was very important to the people of Berinsfield and I can honestly say they have really made a big difference to peoples lives. They really cared and we really appreciated it.'

Despite the demands of the practice, from 1963 Peter took part in the teaching of social workers at Oxford University and Ruskin College, and was elected a member of Green College on its foundation in 1979. From 1974-82 he was a member of Oxford Regional Hospital Board and Oxford Regional Health Authority. In 1977 he was invited to write a book on primary health care for OUP and this led to a number of other books, and to an international profile.

After retirement from the practice in 1978 he continued to do locum work in Oxford and travelled widely in Europe, particularly the Nordic countries, as a consultant, lecturer and trainer.

In 1985 he was again approached by OUP, this time to write a feasibility study on the application of artificial intelligence in general practice, to be known as 'The Oxford System of Medicine'. This led to an extensive research programme lasting

several years, mostly at the Advanced Computation Laboratory of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, to which he was senior medical adviser.

As if all that were not enough, in the mid-90s he was instrumental in the creation of the Hurst Water Meadow Trust, set up to purchase and develop the Hurst water meadow in Dorchester for public enjoyment and education. He took a great interest in the work of the Earth Trust and was delighted, last summer, to attend the annual Rose Ceremony, where he caught up with many old friends, community activists and environmental collaborators.

Peter was awarded the Royal College of General Practitioners' Abercrombie Medal for 'meritorious literary work' in 1985 and The British Empire Medal for 'contribution to community' in 2012. When asked recently how he would like to be remembered he replied: *'I was by nature an innovator and from my earliest years I liked improving things. That's what kept me going.'*

He is survived by his beloved Daphne, his children, Wendy, Rosemary and James, and his four grandsons. An event to celebrate Peter's life will be held at Dorchester Abbey at 11.30 on **Monday 5 March**. All are welcome. For further details of the memorial and the memoir *'An Eventful Life'* please contact www@wendypritchard.co.uk **07796 951414**

Eley McAinsh,
editor *'An Eventful Life'*



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Hello to all our supporters in Dorchester. In this issue, we would like to share the Footsteps story of Ronnie Jacobs, in his own words:

Ronnie's Footsteps

Ronnie is nearly 11 and has cerebral palsy. He has been coming to Footsteps for 7 years. Ronnie walks with a K-walker and is quite independent at home. Foundation manager Maggie had a chat with Ronnie and his mum Katy, at the end of their final session of 2017:

Maggie: Hi Ronnie. You are one of the original Footsteps kids! Can you tell us what you think about Footsteps?

Ronnie: I've got three words for you: I. Want. To. Walk. Oh - that's four words!

M: Sounds great! So is that what you are going to work on in 2018?

R: I'm not going to work on it. I'm going to DO IT!

M: Wow Ronnie you are so motivated! Good attitude!

Katy: This is music to my ears. Ronnie has been coming for seven years, but used to be quite anxious of falling. We have just had this breakthrough where he really wants to push himself - we have booked lots of sessions next year to make the most of this- we would live here if we could!

M: Anything that has got stronger or better with your therapy Ronnie?

R: I definitely think I've got stronger over the years and the pain has got easier - if I fall over it doesn't hurt as much as it used to, so I'm not as scared of falling as before.

M: Well done Ronnie, that's really brave. You must miss a lot of school coming to Footsteps?

R: I am not too bothered about that! I like school and have friends there, I'm in year 6, but it was better when I was in year 4 as my teacher was an SEN teacher and she really got it. There are no other children with CP at my school, apart from a little boy in year 1 but he's really shy - I'm going to a



new school next year and there are 150 children with special needs.

Katy: But they will be all different kinds of special needs - you could have a kid who is deaf or someone with dyslexia. It would be nice for you to meet someone your age with CP wouldn't it? In fact that has been good at Footsteps. The other day Ronnie was having a race with a girl who is on session too, she's around the same age - it got quite competitive! Who won, Ronnie?

R: I will be a gentleman...

M: Fun! Hey, your hair looks really cool - who does it?

R: My mum is a hairdresser - she does the colour, but I style it throughout the day with water and soap in the mirror.

M: Ah, that's why it looks so good - do you want to be a hair-stylist like your mum when you grow up?

R: NO! - I'm going to be a delivery driver and a famous YouTuber.

Ronnie will give a short speech about his experiences at Footsteps in Dorchester Abbey, as part of the concert being held by Radley College in Aid of Footsteps Foundation, on **21 March**.



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It promises to be a truly inspirational evening with something for everyone to enjoy! We would be delighted if you could join us for this unmissable event at Dorchester Abbey, OX10 7HH at 7.30pm on **Saturday 17 March 2018**. Tickets are only £11 (£7 concessions) available from www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk

Thames Consort at Dorchester Abbey 6.00pm Sunday 4 March

Thames Consort Latin Sung Mass An opportunity to hear Palestrina, 'Missa Tu es Petrus' and Tallis, 'Verily, verily I say unto' you sung by the Thames Consort in the glorious surroundings of Dorchester Abbey. This is an opportunity to appreciate our musical, architectural and liturgical heritage in one event as Dorchester Team clergy will celebrate the Mass in the Abbey at George Gilbert Scott's High Altar in the context of this Thames Concert performance.



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At least half the population of our native hedgehogs has been lost from the British countryside over the last two decades, warn two wildlife charities.

The State of Britain's Hedgehogs 2018, published jointly by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS) and People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES), is the only comprehensive review of the status of Britain's hedgehogs. This new report shows that hedgehogs in rural areas are in severe decline, with their numbers plummeting by half since the Millennium.

'There are many reasons hedgehogs are in trouble,' explains Emily Wilson, Hedgehog Officer for Hedgehog Street, a public action campaign run by PTES and BHPS. 'The intensification of agriculture through the loss of hedgerows and permanent grasslands, increased field sizes, and the use of pesticides which reduce the amount of prey available, are all associated with the plunge in numbers of hedgehogs in rural areas.'

However, with approximately 70% of land in the UK managed by farmers, BHPS and PTES are planning to engage with the farming community to help protect this iconic creature.

'Farmers play a vital role in producing food, but they're also well placed to help protect, maintain and enhance our countryside,' continues Wilson. 'The Government recently reiterated plans to reform the EU Common Agricultural Policy to reward landowners for delivering environmental benefits. Many farmers already have a sustainable approach to agriculture, and we think there's a great opportunity to work more widely with them to stem the alarming decline of our country hedgehogs.'

Hedgehogs on the Edge: new report shows hedgehogs plummet by half in British countryside



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Pledge to make a small hole – no bigger than a CD case – in your garden fence, wall and other barriers so that hedgehogs can access different gardens in their search for food, shelter and mates

Log your 'hog sightings – dead or alive – on The BIG Hedgehog Map

Whilst *The State of Britain's Hedgehogs* report highlights a worrying decline in our countryside, it shows a more positive outlook for hedgehogs in our towns and cities: although the species has declined by a third in urban areas since 2000, the rate of decline is slowing. Hedgehogs are not disappearing from urban green spaces as rapidly as they were fifteen years ago, and might even be returning. Where they are found, numbers, too, appear to be growing in some places.

It is exciting to think that the combined efforts of thousands of volunteers who have joined Hedgehog Street and pledged to make their gardens more hedgehog-friendly, may be making a difference. PTES and BHPS launched Hedgehog Street in 2011 to inspire the British public to help hedgehogs and other wildlife that depend on their gardens and, so far, over 47,000 Hedgehog Champions have signed up to help.

Wilson concludes: 'Urban and suburban areas are becoming increasingly important for hedgehogs, so we need more people in those locations to sign up as Hedgehog Champions. Hedgehogs are a generalist species, so the more people can do to help them in their own back garden, the more they will also benefit other wildlife.'



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Despite increases in production costs, we are pleased to announce that our rates to advertisers remain unchanged for 2018.

Please send artwork to dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk one week before the deadline for editorial copy given on page 2.

One-time adverts, please send a cheque, payable to 'Dorchester Abbey PCC', to Nick Forman, Willoughby House, 73 High Street, Dorchester-on-Thames, OX10 7HN.

From your County Councillor...

...Lorraine Lindsay-Gale



Councillor priority fund key part of budget proposals

Oxfordshire County Council is going to reinstate the popular Councillor's Stewardship Fund that was axed during the cuts re-naming it the Councillor Priority Fund. County Councillors will have a £15k fund to support parish council highways and community group projects. In addition, OCC will prioritise children's social care with £1.9m extra being put in to this service. Overall this means £8.5m is being added to the budget for children's social care in 2018/19. This follows the central government announcement that it would allow councils to raise council tax by an additional 1% primarily to address financial pressures in children's social care. The council had proposed a 1.99% Council Tax, with an additional 3% precept for adult social care bringing the total proposed rise to 4.99% the same as last year. The additional 1% that has now been allowed would take the total rise for 2018/19 to 5.99%, with a proposed 2.99% rise in 2019/20. Other calls on funding include the local government national pay settlement where a total of £2.9m extra is required over 2018/19 (£1.4m) and 2019/20 (£1.5m) The Budget proposals go to Full Council on February 13.

Growth deal close to agreement

As detailed in the December report, the Oxfordshire Growth Board has reached an outline Housing and Growth Agreement (Growth Deal) with Government. This will see an additional £215m of investment over the next five years to build infrastructure, support the delivery of new homes and boost economic productivity across the county. This breaks down as: £30m pa for five years for infrastructure; £60m for affordable homes across the county; and £5m to develop a Joint Statutory Spatial Plan (JSSP). The Board wants the five-year deal to be the first stage in a sustained partnership with Government to secure the ongoing investment needed to deliver properly planned growth and economic development over the coming years. This will support councils to achieve the ambition of 100,000 new homes across the county over the period 2011-2031, as identified through the 2014 countywide Strategic Housing Market Assessment and Local Plans. During the period of development all planning authorities will have their five-year land supply requirement reduced to a three-year land supply with that condition in place for the first three years of the new JSSP.

Carillion: OCC agrees exit deal after company collapse

OCC has formally terminated its contract with Carillion LGS Limited effective from 1 February 2018, following the collapse of the parent company. This brings forward the already agreed end of the contract negotiated last June set for the end of June 2018. OCC made a net payment of £10.65m to Carillion to cover

work already completed as part of the final settlement to end the contract. Carillion provided school meals and cleaning; maintenance of council buildings; property services, and construction work such as school extensions. Services previously provided by Carillion will continue through a mix of bringing staff in-house; continuing with suppliers, and working with sub-contractors. Like every other Carillion customer, OCC is now working out the most cost-effective way to complete work left unfinished by Carillion. It has taken over direct responsibility for commissioning future construction work and service delivery.

New funding boosts support for asylum-seeking children

Extra funding to support unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASCs) living in Oxfordshire has been received by the county council. A government grant worth £335,000 has been awarded to help strengthen the support services available to UASCs over the next two years. It is part of a wider **national funding announcement of £29million**. OCC has the same responsibilities for looking after UASCs arriving in the county as it does for all other children and young people in care. Young asylum-seekers are among the most vulnerable groups in society – often with no connections or family in the UK, little spoken English and having made long and traumatic journeys. The new money is not for covering the cost of care placements themselves, but for additional support to help UASCs adjust to living in the county, and integrate with local communities. The council currently looks after 52 UASCs. These young people have predominantly travelled from Afghanistan, Albania and Eritrea.

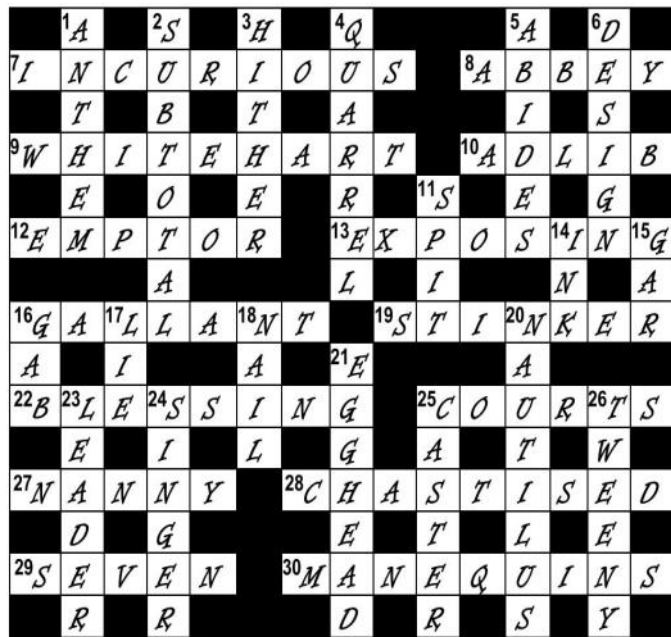
Oxford to Cambridge Expressway

On 12 December an overwhelming majority of County Councillors (57 out of 63) voted to support a motion tabled by Cllr Atkins calling on the Leader Ian Hudspeth to write to Highways England, NIC, the Minister Chris Grayling etc asking on behalf of the County Council for an Independent Inquiry before any decision is taken on the preferred corridor for the Expressway. (Two of the possible Southern routes cut straight across this Division.) Up until now the proposed timetable for the project only includes an Inquiry afterwards, when the choice between North/West, Central or South of Oxford has been taken. It was encouraging to get such widespread support from right across the county.

A cross party Cabinet Advisory Group has been set up at OCC to monitor and comment on the progress of the project. And I recently attended a meeting with MPs John Howell and Ed Vaizey who have committed to support the Action Group by lobbying at Westminster together.

The Dorchester News Crossword No2

Compiled by Slider



Crossword Prize!

There have been a number of entries to the crossword competition, and the winner will be announced next month.

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Parish Council Notices

March Meeting of the Parish Council

The next monthly meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Wednesday 14 March** in the back room of the Village Hall starting at 7.30 p.m. The agenda for the meeting will be displayed on village notice boards and on the village website - www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk - at least three clear days in advance. All are welcome to attend and, at the beginning of the meeting, may raise any matter of concern.

Contacting the Parish Council

The Parish Clerk is Geoffrey Russell of The Pigeons (next to The Fleur de Lys), 5-7 High Street, Dorchester-on-Thames OX10 7HH Please note new direct line for calls and texting **07745 311439**

The e-mail is parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Cllr Chris Hill, Chairman of the Council, can be contacted via chairman@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

More information about the Village is available at www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk



YoCO Charity Dinner

Saturday 10 March 2018

7:00pm Dorchester Abbey

£25 per person

Developing young people through personal challenge

Come and enjoy a two course meal and wine with table service whilst being entertained with songs from Two-a-Part in support of YoCO. A chicken, beef and vegetarian dish available with a selection of desserts.

YoCO is a local charity established to support young people aged 14 to 21 in youth groups following a guided 18 month programme designed to help them to overcome the problems that they face during teenage years by developing resilience and confidence. The young people then have the opportunity to visit Western Kenya and assist with the endeavours of the Nasio Trust by helping local teachers and charity workers in the day care centres supported by the Trust.

As well as providing the table service, the Berinsfield youth group will also be performing a song or two to say farewell before heading off to Kenya at Easter.

Tickets are available from the Co-op in Dorchester or by calling John Cornelius (**07912 351018**).

Chiropodist

Third Wednesday of each month,
1.00–4.00pm

Village Hall (back room)

21 March

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Other services include: Conservatory roof cleaning; Fascia cleaning; Gutters unblocked & cleaned out.



We would like to make you aware of an increase in shed burglaries which have occurred in Wallingford and surrounding villages in recent weeks.

Please use the following advice to protect your property.

Many sheds whilst being of good construction fall short on basic security. It is easy to unscrew the ironmongery, steal contents and in some cases replace the screws to make it look as if the shed has not been tampered with.

Crime Reduction Advice:

- By using tamper proof screws or coach bolts together with a good quality pad bar or hasp and staple and close shackled padlock, the shed owner will make it harder for the would-be thief.
- It is also a good idea to bond any window glass in, with mastic to prevent easy removal.
- Ensure all tools and equipment are locked away when not in use.
- High-quality locks should be used on doors. Windows can be fitted with a grille or, as a cheaper alternative, chicken wire, to slow a thief down.
- A shed alarm can also be installed.
- Post-coding or indelibly marking all property such as lawnmowers, bikes, and tools using ultra-violet pens, forensic marking such as Selecta DNA or Smartwater or engravers.
- Installing security lighting as a deterrent, and plants such as thorny shrubs to act as a barrier at potential access points.
- If building a shed, putting it where it is most visible to you and neighbours.

If you see anything suspicious please phone 101 or if you believe a crime is in the process of being committed 999.
Thank you

PCSO 2248 Marie Davenport
PCSO 9825 Sue Harris



Cinema: Performances start at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated

March

- Thurs 1 **The Greatest Showman Sing Along (PG)**
- Sat 3 **Early Man (PG)** 10.30am and 7.30pm
- Sun 4 **Early Man (PG)**
- Mon 5 **The Mercy (12A)**
- Thurs 8 **The Mercy (12A)**
- Fri 9 **Phantom Thread (15)**
- Sat 10 **Phantom Thread (15)**
- Sun 11 **Phantom Thread (15)**
- Wed 14 **Sustainable Wallingford presents Tomorrow (U)**
- Sun 25 **The Shape Of Water (15)**
- Mon 26 **The Shape Of Water (15)**
- Tues 27 **The Shape Of Water (15)**
- Thurs 29 **NT Live: Julius Caesar (15)** includes strobe lighting
- Fri 30 **Find Your Feet (12A)**
- Sat 31 **Find Your Feet (12A)**

LIVE

Thursday 22 to Saturday 24 at 7:30pm with a Saturday matinee at 2:30pm - **Showtime**

Tickets £15 Adults and £12 for under 14s
An evening of songs from popular Musical Shows. As well as Les Miserables and Miss Saigon, this concert performance also features songs from Cats, Evita and Phantom of the Opera. Co-production of Crescendo and The Corn Exchange.

Monday 12 at 7:30pm **'An evening with Jeremy Irons'**

We are offering Premium tickets at £45 which will include an Exclusive Reception with Jeremy after the show, with canapes and sparkling wine. These will be limited to 26 tickets in rows A and B. All other tickets are £25.

Jeremy Irons talks about his life and work in both film and stage productions. This is a one-off opportunity to spend time with Jeremy Irons in the intimate setting of the Corn Exchange Theatre. Jeremy is one of only a handful of actors who have won all three of the film industry's most prestigious awards: an Oscar, Golden Globe and Tony. He is currently appearing at London's Wyndham Theatre in Richard Eyre's production of *Long Day's Journey into Night*.

He will be talking about his life and work in both film and stage productions and answering any questions that you would like to put to him.

Coming soon: Production by Sinodun Players

- Lettice and Lovage by Peter Shaffer - **11 to 14 April 2018**
- Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead by Tom Stoppard - **23 to 26 May 2018**
- The Odyssey by Ginny Avery - **28 to 30 June 2018** (The Encore Youth Group)
- A Murder is Announced by Agatha Christie - **17 to 20 October 2018**

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Castle History walk

By popular demand on **Saturday 31 March**, an historic guided walk around Wallingford Castle has been arranged, which will be led by Judy Dewey (local historian and Museum curator).

This Castle history walk will start at the Museum at 2.30pm and last about 2 hours, [unsuitable for dogs!]. There is a charge of £6 for this guided walk, but you could combine it with a season ticket to the Museum, and view 'Wallingford Castle - the Inside Story'.

So, why not immerse yourself in the town's fascinating local history for the day!



Treasures with Tales @ Wallingford Museum

There's been a great response to the public appeal for the loan of 'Treasures with Tales' for the new 2018 exhibition opening on **1 March** at Wallingford Museum.

The volunteers are delighted to have had a wide variety of fascinating objects brought in, each with its own special significance - from exotic to fun to poignant - or just beautiful! Visitors are able to follow the 'Treasures Trail' and discover these things for themselves throughout the museum. Each will have its own 'tale' displayed and can be enjoyed by the whole family. The treasures are woven in amongst our other exhibitions which include not only the story of Wallingford's Saxon origins, its great Royal castle, the town's links with Agatha Christie, but also updates on the recent archaeology that is being uncovered by new developments around the town.

Look out for special events this year including Town and Castle history walks (**31 March**), A Night at the Museum (**18 May and 26 Oct**), Family Archaeology Day (**28 July**), BunkFest offers, and a Castle Day (**18 Aug**).

Lots of fascinating things to see and enjoy!

www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk



Wallingford Garden Club

On **8 March 7.30pm** at the Wallingford Gardening Club meeting (in the Ridgeway Community Church Centre), Dr Stephen Head returns to the club to talk about Garden Ponds for Plants and Attracting Wildlife.

Steve is a well-known local environmental consultant from Oxford University, who is passionate about his interests. He is a popular speaker on gardening and wildlife having made many radio and TV appearances, and has been the national co-ordinator for the Wildlife Gardening Forum for many years. Steve has led several UK environmental charities, and was a board member of the Exmoor National Park Authority for eight years.

Visitors are most welcome admission is just £3.00.

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What's on in Wallingford



'Putting Wallingford on the map: from Gough to Google'

John Leighfield will talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about the development of mapping.

This talk will be heavily illustrated with pictures of all the key maps that show Wallingford from 1574 onwards. It will provide a brief introduction to mapping from prehistoric times up to the earliest, primitive maps of Britain. It will also look at the first extant map of Britain with genuine cartographic content and the revolution in mapping in the 16th century (particularly Saxton and Speed), in the 18th century (driven by a prize given by the RSA), in the 19th century (the Ordnance Survey), and then the transformation in mapping brought about by the technological revolution of the late-20th and the 21st centuries. The talk will be accompanied by a display of a number of the key maps that have been discussed, and by an illustrated handout.

John Leighfield was educated at Exeter College Oxford, and his career has been in IT from the pioneering days of 1962 onwards. He has been Chairman of various national IT institutions and of a number of IT companies. John has been collecting maps (of Oxfordshire and adjoining counties, and of Cornwall) since 1966 and regularly lectures on the topic.

This talk will be held on **Wednesday 14 March**, 7.45 for 8.00pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford.

Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

www.twahas.org.uk

Wallingford Flower Club

Wednesday 14 March 2018

Door Open 7.00pm for 7.45pm

At Crowmarsh Village Hall,

Benson Lane, Crowmarsh OX10 8ED

Floral Demonstration by Vijay Bhatia '*Out of Africa*'

Visitors welcome £5

Coffee – Raffle – Sales Table

Wallingford Theatre Club

For people who enjoy live theatre the Wallingford Theatre Club arranges trips throughout the year. A varied programme of drama, musicals and ballet are booked, generally matinee performances, and travel is arranged by luxury coach from our regular pickup points in Wallingford and Didcot. Membership costs are £5.00 joining fee and annual subscription £5.00.

For more information and an application form please contact Marion Rae, 33 Goldsmiths Lane, Wallingford, OX10 0DN. Telephone no. **01491 824422** or email marion@274industries.com

Day by day

Fri 2 Mar	Lent Lunch 12.30pm 24 Bridge End
Sun 4 Mar	Lent 3 8.00am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Caroline King) 10.30am Eucharist with hymns Thames Consort Sung Latin Mass 6.00pm Dorchester Abbey
Mon 5 March	Memorial Service Dr Peter Pritchard 11.30am Dorchester Abbey
Fri 9 Mar	Lent Lunch 12.30pm Church House, Queen St
Sat 10 Mar	Two A Part Dinner and Concert 7.00pm Dorchester Abbey
Sun 11 Mar	Mothering Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Canon Sue Booyes) 10.30am Mothering Sunday
Tues 13 Mar	10.15am Short Communion
Wed 14 Mar	Lunch Club 12.30pm Village Hall Parish Council Monthly meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
Thurs 15 Mar	Classic Car Show, 1.00-4.00pm George Hotel
Fri 16 Mar	Lent Lunch 12.30pm Manor House, Overy
Sat 17 Mar	Berkshire Maestros Concert 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Sun 18 Mar	Lent 5 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Canon Sue Booyes) 10.30am Sung Eucharist 5.00pm Evensong
Mon 19 Mar	Service at The Close 2.30pm



Wed 21 Mar	Chiropodist Village Hall (see p25) Radley College Concert 7.00pm Dorchester Abbey Culham Horticultural Society Paul Barney: <i>Plant Hunting in Manipur and Burma – in the footsteps of Frank Kingdom Ward</i> 7.30pm Abbey Guest House
Thurs 22 Mar	Service at the Cheshire Home 11.30am
Fri 23 Mar	Lent Lunch 12.30pm 3 Haven Close
Sat 24 Mar	Benson Choral Society Concert 7.00pm Dorchester Abbey
Sun 25 Mar	Palm Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion with hymns (1662) (Canon Sue Booyes) 10.30am Family Service 6.00pm Team Service
Wed 28 Mar	Lunch Club 12.30pm Village Hall Historical Society Professor Malcolm Ains: <i>A noble plan that failed: Pier Luigi and the Pitt Rivers Museum</i> 7.30pm Village Hall
Thurs 29 Mar	Maunder Thursday 6.30pm Meal and Service
Fri 30 Mar	Lent Lunch 12.00noon Abbey Guest House Good Friday 1.00pm Devotion OSJ Concert 6.00pm Dorchester Abbey

Weekly events

Tuesday	Coffee in the Abbey 10.30am-12noon Bellringing Practice 7.30pm Abbey Fishmonger 9.30am to 9.50am by War Memorial (p.20)
Wednesday	Holy Communion at Berinsfield Church 9.30am
Thursday	Baby & Toddler Group 9.30am – 11.00am Village Hall: (term time only)
Friday	Choir Practice 7.00pm Abbey

Regular events also appear in the Parish Council's website:
www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Parish Registers

Funerals

15 Feb Frank Blackwell

Church services in the Abbey appear in red.
More details can be found at :
www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

For details of services at St Birinus RC Church go to: www.stbirinus.co.uk

Mother's Day 11 March



Don't you dare forget!

CONTACTING THE POLICE

To report a non-emergency crime, or to give information to Thames Valley Police, call **101**. Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555111**. In the event of an emergency dial **999**.

HEALTH SERVICES

DIRECT LINE TO URGENT LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

Dial **111** to access urgent local NHS health care services. Where possible, they will book you an appointment or transfer you to the people you need to speak to or send an ambulance if they think you need one. For non-urgent health needs you should contact your GP in the usual way.

MINOR INJURIES

The Minor Injuries Unit at Abingdon Hospital, Marcham Road, daily from 10.00 am to 10.30 pm: **01865 903476**.

A&E

The nearest A&E units are at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford (**01865 741166**) and the Royal Berkshire in Reading (**01183 225111**)

SURGERIES

Berinsfield Health Centre: **01865 340558**
Clifton Hampden: **01865 407888**
Millstream Benson: **01491 838286**

ROOM HIRE

ABBEY GUEST HOUSE BOOKINGS

To hire the Abbey Guest House for private functions, meetings, exhibitions, etc, contact Kate Herbert on **01865 343164**.

HIRE OF DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

To hire our Village Hall, contact Tracey Francis; bookings@dorchesteronthamesvillagehall.org.uk or telephone **01865 340352**.

Please telephone at least 24 hours in advance to arrange collection of the key.

FAULTS AND COMPLAINTS

STREET LIGHTING

Report any problems with a street light to **0800 317802**, available 24 hours a day. Callers will be asked for the address of the site and the nature of the fault.

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

Ring Oxfordshire Highways on **0845 3101111**, available five days a week, with a 24-hour answering facility. Complaints can also be sent via e-mail to southernarea@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

BLOCKED DRAINS

Ring Thames Water for blocked drains on **0800 316 9800**. Callers will be asked for the postcode of the address where the drains are blocked.

REFUSE COLLECTION

If your rubbish is not collected on the due date contact the contractor direct. Call **03000 610610** and the website: www.more recycling.co.uk

BERINSFIELD LIBRARY

Green Furlong, Berinsfield **01865 340771**
Free Internet access. DVDs can be ordered.

OPENING HOURS

Mon - closed
Tues, Wed, Fri 10.00am - 12.30pm
Tues 2.00-7.00pm
Weds, Thurs 2.00-5.30pm
Fri 2.00-5.00pm
Sat 10.00am - 12.30pm

Useful Information

ANIMAL WELFARE

RSPCA (wildlife): **0300 123 0206**
St Tiggywinkles animal rescue: **01844 292292**
Swan Lifeline: **01753 859397**

TRANSPORT

DORCHESTER FLYER

The Dorchester Flyer runs every Friday from Dorchester to Wallingford at 10.15am and 12.00noon, returning at 11.40am and 1.00pm. Tickets must be bought from Lily's in advance.

OTHER BUS SERVICES

Information about bus services, both local and national, is available from www.traveline.info, and **0871 200 2233**, which also provides information about trains, London Underground and Overground and ferries throughout the UK.

OXFORDSHIRE TRAVEL ADVICE LINE

Free journey planning and advice for people over 65 and those needing a high level of support whilst travelling. **01865 323738**

AGE UK

The UK's largest charity working with older people For help and advice etc. go to www.ageuk.org.uk

WALLINGFORD VOLUNTEER CENTRE

WVC Volunteers provide help for the elderly, disabled or vulnerable, especially by giving lifts to medical appointments at hospitals in Oxford, Abingdon and Reading. You need to register as a client. Contact the Centre for more information. **01491 836345**

www.wallingford.volunteercentre@gmail.com

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Clerk is Geoffrey Russell of The Pigeons (next to The Fleur de Lys), High Street, Dorchester on Thames OX10 7HH; **07745 311439** (during normal office hours, please, unless an emergency); parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk.

USEFUL CONTACTS

ANGLICAN PRIEST

Dorchester Rectory
Rev. Canon Sue Booy
01865 340007

EDUCATION OFFICER

Margaret Craig
01865 343164
education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

ABBEY E-MAIL:

admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk
Contact details for Church Wardens and other Abbey information are on the notice board in the Abbey.

ABBEY WEBSITE

www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

VILLAGE WEBSITE

www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST

The Presbytery
Fr. John Osman
Bridge End
01865 340417
www.stbirinus.co.uk

Dorchester Abbey Museum E-mail
museum@dorchester-abbey.org.uk



REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Fri 2 Mar **Green**
Fri 9 Mar **Black**
Fri 16 Mar **Green**
Fri 23 Mar **Black**
Sat 31 Mar **Green**

Weekdays from 7.00am
Saturdays from 6.00am

Weekly: food waste (in bio-degradable starch-based bag or wrapped in newspaper, in green caddy).

The recycling centre at Oakley Wood (off the A4130) is open.8.00am - 5.00pm seven days a week.

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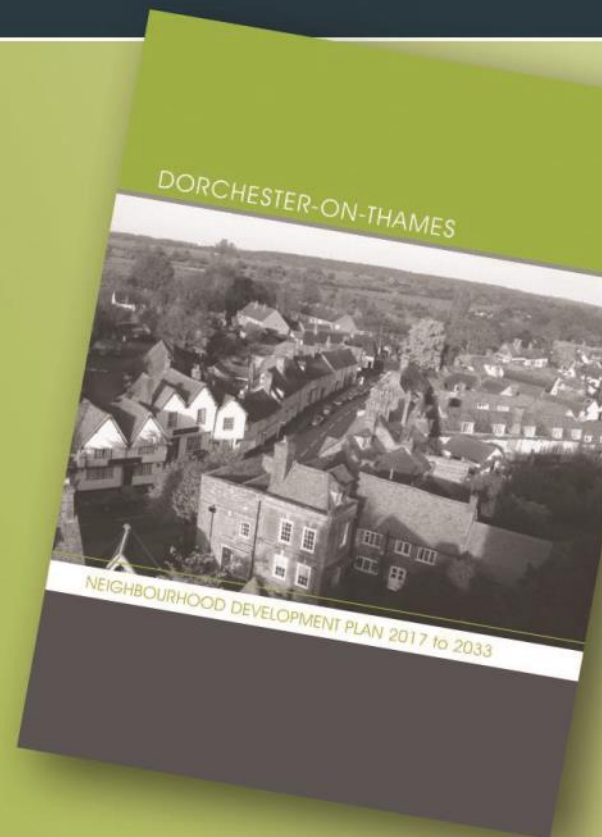
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DORCHESTER-ON-THAMES

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017 to 2033

The face of the countryside as we know it is being changed and rural communities like ours must adapt to accommodate the need for more homes to be built in our part of the world. If you as a resident of Dorchester-on-Thames have an interest in or concern for the future of our village, particularly in the areas of its:

- HOUSING
- ECONOMY
- TOURISM AND LEISURE
- HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT
- NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, WILDLIFE AND BIODIVERSITY



It is vital that you exercise your right to vote on the Plan at the forthcoming referendum on:

15TH MARCH 2018 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

The Plan can be viewed on the village website www.dorchester-on-thames.co.uk/ndp and also at the George, the White Hart, the Fleur, Lily's, Hair and the Abbey.

The Parish Clerk will also have a copy.

Proxy and postal votes are available and can be applied for at www.gov.uk/apply-vote-proxy

There will be at least one drop-in session at the Village Hall (date and times to be announced) prior to the Referendum for you to come and discuss any questions, issues or concerns with members of the Parish Council and NDP team. Any questions you may have in the intervening period should be sent to the Parish Clerk parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk who will ensure that a member of the NDP team comes back to you with an answer as soon as possible.

So please remember, this is a unique opportunity for you to influence the future shape of your village and your vote is vital

