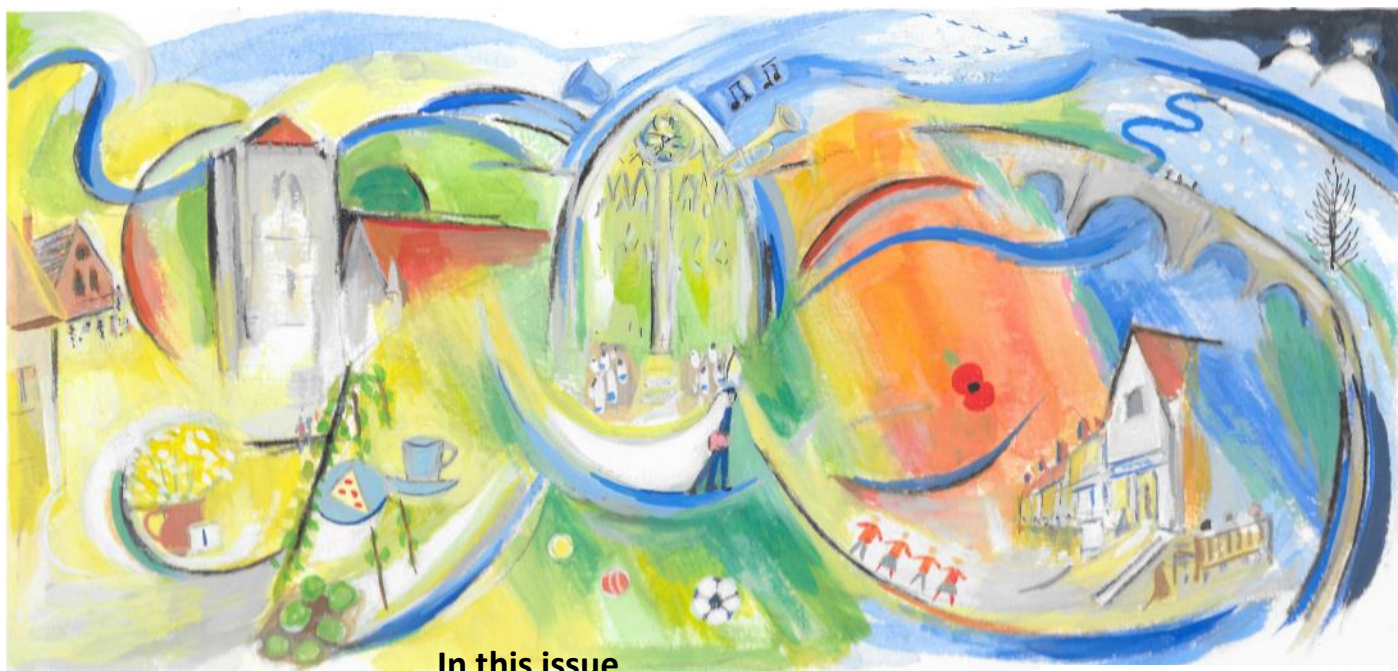


Dorchester News

Free to every home in the parish

November 2024





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Cover: Autumn comes to Herringcote

**Deadline for
December/January
Dorchester News**



email:

dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

A DoT view

Christmas is coming. Never mind the geese getting fat, there are lots of Christmas-related events and activities coming up. The Abbey of course features strongly in this. The Abbey Christmas Market has become a regular feature in the calendar with a host of stalls to tempt you; and the Abbey Christmas Cards are a very welcome change from the boxes of assorted Santas and trees you can get elsewhere. The Abbey Museum is having special opening times to allow Christmas shopping from their range of history and Midsomer Murders related items. All of these, of course, contribute to the support and upkeep of the Abbey so are well worth taking a look at. The Living Advent Calendars, which started just a couple of years ago have become a real treat, and contribute to St Birinus School. This year there is a real attempt to build on the lovely Christmas Tree that we have had outside the Co-op for the last ten or so years and spread colour, light and brightness throughout the village for the Christmas season. This initiative has been supported by the Parish Council and The White Hart has already agreed to contribute to new decorations for the tree itself. (See p14.) This initiative could really make the village 'sing' at Christmas. So do contribute either financial support to it or just your effort to make it a real village celebration of Christmas.

Ian Brace

Editorial Team
Ian Brace, Gillian Johnson

Advertising Manager
Charlotte Garside

Printed by
Artisan Print Solutions

In late October and early November we enter what is coming to be known as the season of Remembrance.

It begins with All Saints' and All Souls' Days. In the book of Revelation, the last book in the Bible, we have the most amazing picture of the great company in heaven, those who have faithfully followed Christ and gone before us. They serve as wonderful examples, an encouragement to us. Then at All Souls' we pause to remember and give thanks for all of those who have shared and shaped our lives, but who are no longer with us. For me, it is a moment to stop and to give thanks for all of those we have loved and lost and who we see no more; for all they have meant to us and to hear afresh of God's love and strength as we continue the journey of life without them. A solemn moment, but infused with the hope of the resurrection – the hope we have in

Jesus, who has gone before us in death and resurrection – that we might live.

And then we come to Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day. Here we pause, we stop, we keep silent and take a moment to remember those who have laid down their lives in order that we might enjoy the peace and the freedom we enjoy now. And as we do this of course we are deeply aware of the current conflicts in our world, and we pray for peace and all who work for it.

This is a season for reflection. In the Old Testament the people of God, the Israelites, were forever being called by God to remember – to remember who they were and where they had come from. But it was also a call to a future that could be different. When we remember, we too need to have a vision for the future.

In the Abbey, over a couple of weeks in October, there has been an art installation highlighting the plight of homelessness in Oxfordshire. I was extremely moved by the personal stories of homelessness that were presented but also by the incredible people who are doing their best to help make the future brighter for those in need. Some of us will consider it a calling from God to help others, others of us simply a response to our common humanity. Whatever our motives, I see God's work in this vision for a better world. In this life we work for the coming of God's Kingdom – secure in the promise that one day, as we read in the book of Revelation, it will be completely fulfilled. And for now we pray – and work – that God's kingdom may come, God's will be done – on earth, as it is in heaven.

Every blessing
Jane

A message from Rev Caroline

Thank you very much for the generous gifts and many good wishes for my retirement. We received a very generous John Lewis voucher which we look forward to using by choosing something special for our new house in Benson.

I am pleased to say that our house is coming on well, we expect to move in November or early December, and will hopefully be well settled in by Christmas.

With many thanks to you all for your friendship and generosity.

Caroline

Service Information

See service list in Dorchester Diary, page 30 but please check with your minister.

Most parishes send a weekly email with service information; if you want to receive this email – and for up to date information about services - please call the Team Office on **01865 340007** or email admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Contact the Abbey Office

If you are feeling fragile or alone at home, and would like to have a home visit or Communion at home, please contact Sandie or Sam at the Abbey Office on **01865 340007**.



Sunday 17th November:
10.30am

FAMILY SERVICE



All are warmly invited to join our
Family Service for Bible stories, fun,
craft activities and refreshments

Events in the Abbey

Thurs 31 Oct – Sat 2 Nov. The second annual St Birinus Festival - Dorchester-on-Thames. Featuring The Davey Consort / Beethoven & Brahms from The Royal Academy of Music / Ryan Wigglesworth / Sophie Bevan.

Times and tickets vary (some free events) - For full event programme visit

www.thedaveyconsort.co.uk/collections/st-birinus-festival

Friday 15 November 7.30pm. Russell Watson - Magnificent Buildings Concert Tour. Info and Booking: www.weloveconcerts.com or ring **01256 416384**. Come join Multi-Award Winning tenor Russell Watson accompanied by world renowned pianist/arranger/writer Mike Moran. Tickets From £41.25

Saturday 16 November 7.00pm- 9.00pm OSJ – Mozart Mass In C Minor. Mozart's Ave Verum/Bruckner Motets/ Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No 5 'Emperor'*. Featuring OSJ Voices/Orchestra of St John's. Tickets £5- £25 www.osj.org.uk

Saturday 23 November 7.30pm – 9.30pm. Benson Choral Society presents - Choral Music For Royal Occasions, featuring Oxford Sinfonia www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk Tickets: £17 unreserved £20 reserved

Thursday 28 November. Moving Music Concerts in association with Sound Resource. Two Performances 11:30am and 2.00pm Relaxed seasonal concerts with performances by Christopher Redgate (oboe, piano) and Celia Redgate (violin, flute), and sing-along songs led by Hannah Davey (soprano). All welcome, in particular people living with dementia, their family, friends and carers. Refreshments served for 30 mins before each concert. www.soundresource.org.uk. Email movingmusicconcerts@gmail.com to reserve places. Tickets – Pay what you can afford £5 suggested donation.



Thanks from Wallingford Food Bank

I write on behalf of the Wallingford food bank to thank your congregation for the donations received yesterday.

We were so grateful to receive your gifts. It is very encouraging to find the community at Dorchester Abbey, still able to support us in this way.

We continue to experience high demand, so the food you have donated is very welcome.

Yours sincerely

**Alice Penney
Manager**



An invitation to join us for Remembrance Sunday 10 November 2024

This year has already been another poignant year of remembrance for those servicemen and women that gave their lives and bodies at the D Day Landings in June 80 years ago. The Dorchester Branch of the Royal British Legion is planning for this year's Remembrance Sunday event that commences in the Abbey and is then followed by the Act of Remembrance at the village War Memorial at the junction of Watling Lane and the High Street at about 10.40 am.

This year Remembrance Sunday falls on **Sunday 10 November** and we are all hoping that once again we will enjoy the good fortune of dry weather as we have in many of the previous years. This is an opportunity for the whole nation to remember the sacrifices made in two world wars and many more recent conflicts on our behalf. As in previous years everyone in the community is welcome to join us, whether in the Abbey for the church service at 10.00am, at the War Memorial, or for both parts of the service.

We hope to see you there.

Chris Hill

Chairman of Dorchester & District RBL Branch

osj
AUTUMN 2024

Mozart
Mass in C minor
Beethoven
Piano concerto no 5
Bruckner
Motets

ORCHESTRA OF ST JOHN'S
The professional orchestra resident at SJE Arts Oxford and Dorchester Abbey

Sat 16 Nov, 7pm
Dorchester Abbey

osj.org.uk
£5-£25



Hempcroft Allotments November To dig or not to dig?

Autumn is a great time to get started on an allotment. Whilst you do not have the immediate excitement of planting seeds and seeing things grow, it is the time when the foundations can be laid for a successful year ahead. This is the time to clear the ground of weeds and the remains of the summer's crops, tidying the grass pathways/edges and most importantly, getting some organic matter into the soil. The light soil in our allotments is a joy to work with and a far cry from the heavy clay that you might encounter elsewhere. However, the downside is that water and nutrient retention is poor – and that's where the need to add organic matter comes in. Adding some well-rotted manure to your plot will make a huge difference and November is a great time to do it.

Which brings us to the question of whether to dig or not to dig? Over the years, Dorchester allotmenters have had success with both the traditional digging approach and the no-dig alternative. Both can work – and each has their pros and cons. Digging is useful when soil is compacted, and the process helps aeration and drainage. It is also very effective at getting organic matter mixed into the soil and for removing weeds and pests like wire worms. No dig preserves the natural drainage channels made by worms, the fungal networks in the soil and reduces the release of carbon that's locked in the soil.

Whatever you decide, success will depend on getting organic matter into the soil, and getting started in November gives the worms and other organisms in the soil plenty of time to do their work. If you work when the soil is too wet you will damage the soil structure - best to wait until the soil drains. Generally the best approach is to rotate the addition of manure across your plot over a three-year cycle so that you can grow root crops in soil which does not have fresh manure to avoid the roots splitting or "forking".

November is also a great time to collect leaves and make leaf mould compost for the future. Clearing leaves tidies the garden and allows sunlight to reach the grass. One approach is to collect the leaves whilst damp and store them somewhere protected in re-used compost bags (stronger than bin bags), pierced with some holes (for aeration) and with the top folded down (to stop the top layer drying out). You can also add a biological accelerator to speed up the composting process. The leaves will rot down to about a third of their original volume and the time taken will depend on the type of leaf, typically taking 1 to 2 years. The resulting material is an excellent soil improver.

Following the recent allotment society Annual General Meeting, I have joined the committee and agreed with Ed that I would take over writing this update. I will provide an update on the refreshed committee next month but, in the meantime, please do get in touch if there are things that you would like to hear about in future editions.

If you are interested in taking on an allotment, please do get in touch with Ed, myself or one of the other committee members. We will be happy to answer your questions and welcome you to a very sociable group of people.

Roger Seabrook

Dorchester Lunch Club

The Lunch Club lunch in November will be on **Wednesday 27 November** in the back room of the Village Hall at 12.30, cost of £5 payable in cash when you come, but please confirm with me by **Friday 22 November** that you will be attending, if you haven't already told me.

As regards a Christmas Lunch, I have provisionally booked the White Hart Hotel for **Wednesday 11 December** at 12.30 for 12.45 to provide us with a special Christmas lunch. The cost will be £29 for a two course meal with a good choice of dishes. It is essential that I know who wishes to attend and your choice of food from the menu by **Friday 29 November**, and it will be essential to pay me the £29 by that date too.

Susan Jupp

Organiser of the Lunch Club

**Contact details: tel 01865 341066 or 07907 778774
email susanjupp13@gmail.com**

John Masefield House Christmas Fete 23 November

Friends and Family of John Masefield House Residents are holding a Christmas Fete on **23 November** from 2.00pm to 4.00pm at **John Masefield House**, Burcot Brook, Burcot, OX14 3DP. Stalls to include soft toys, raffle, cakes and bottle stall. Refreshments will also be available.

Abbey Tea Room End of Season Thank you!

Dorchester Abbey Tea Room is now closed until the Saturday of Easter weekend 2025 (**19 April**) and we would like to thank all our customers for their support and cake consumption through the 2024 season.

Financially this year has once again been a new record of almost £28k – an amazing achievement given all that rain! Six village charities and one Festival charity have run sessions, raising over £2.5k between them. Over £10k of this money will be given to charities proposed by the PCC and volunteers and the rest used to maintain the Guest House.



We sold an amazing 5,000 slices of cake, 800 cream teas, 3,500 cups of tea & 800 cups of coffee. The record still stands at 9 pieces of cake in one sitting, held by Mr Mark Sullivan from Australia.

100 people have helped with the tea room this year, including two brilliant DofE students, baking, making jam, washing up and serving. Do join us whether you can manage just one cake or session a season or one a month – it's a great way to meet new friends and we really do need your help!

Steph Forman

steph@forman.org.uk



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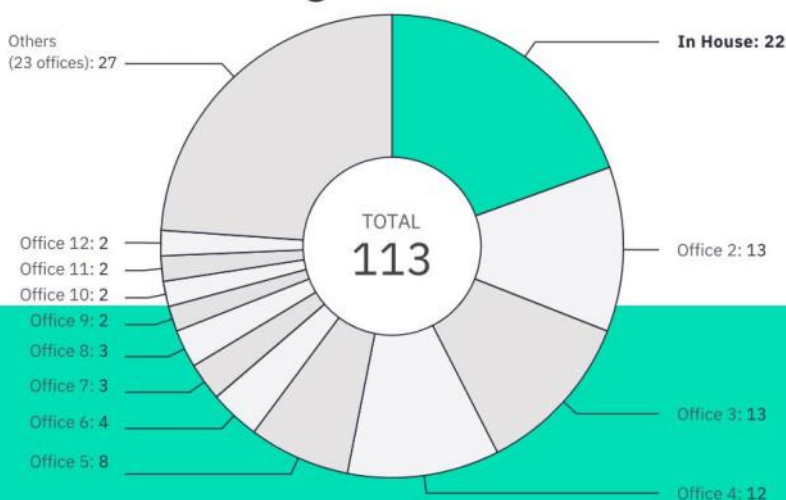
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*Dates: 01/01/2024 - 15/09/2024

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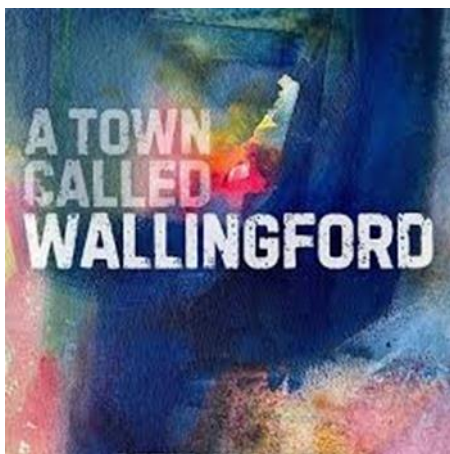
Dorchester Historical Society

Wednesday 27 November 2024, 7.30pm,

Dorchester Abbey Shrine Chapel

Members free, Visitors welcome (£5)

**Peter Adamson will speak on
*A Town called Wallingford***



This talk is based on Peter Adamson's latest book, described as 'a tribute to a town with stories to tell'. Rather than offering a chronological history, it highlights events, history, people, businesses and local stories which reflect Wallingford as he sees it, and which give the town its unique qualities.

Peter Adamson last came to Dorchester to speak about his earlier book: *A Landmark in Time: The World of the Wittenham Clumps*. He is a past winner of the Royal Society of Literature VS Pritchett Memorial Prize, and in addition to non-fiction writing has published three novels and a collection of short stories. Both his locally-themed books are available from the Museum: open 30th November and 3rd December; for out-of-season contact details see the Museum feature in this issue of Dorchester News.

Dates for your diary:

22 January 2025: Paul Booth on '*Evolving ideas on Roman and early post-Roman Dorchester-on-Thames*', a significant update on his last talk here, in 2019.

Culham & District Horticultural Club

Wednesday 20 November 2024 at 7.30 pm

Dorchester Abbey, Dorchester-on-Thames

Speaker

Samantha Hopes

Plants with a Story



Many plants have a story, here Samantha shares 25 of the most interesting she has come across so far: from where they were collected, how they are pollinated, to folk law and old wives' tales. Samantha now runs Hopes Garden Plants with her husband Nigel but prior to this worked with John Massey at Ashwood Nurseries. Although originally trained as a geologist Samantha's extensive horticultural training included Birmingham Botanical Garden, Pershore and Wisley, with work experience at Kew and Great Dixter Gardens.

Our membership includes keen amateur gardeners, professional horticulturalists and those who just enjoy beautiful plants and gardens. We organize talks in the winter and garden visits in the summer. The annual subscription is £20. Visitors are welcome (suggested donation £4). For more details telephone **01235 850381** or email **judy@tiggercat.me.uk**



Dorchester Abbey Museum and Gift Shop Christmas shopping

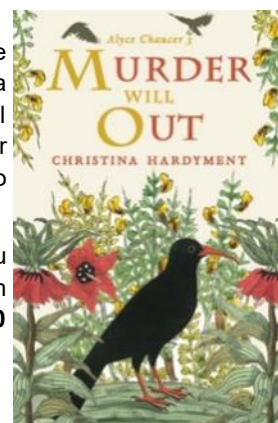
The Museum will be open on **Saturday 30 November 10.00am to 5.00pm** and **Tuesday 3 December, 10.30am to 12.30pm**, as well as having its own stall at the Abbey Christmas market.



Come and purchase Christmas cards, stocking fillers, books, greetings cards, toys, jewellery and Midsomer merchandise. We carry a wide range of unique Elise Barnard Dorchester gifts (tote bags, fridge magnets, mugs) including her new design tea towels (£10), a perfect Christmas present.

The third part of the exciting Alyce Chaucer trilogy by Christina Hardyment, *Murder Will Out*, will also be on sale, £10. The earlier books are also still available, so why not buy all three?

If you miss our opening days, you can order direct from Museum Treasurer Linda Hender, **07790 341375**, **lindakhender@gmail.com**.





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St Birinus Primary School News

We have had a really busy term here at St Birinus and we can't quite believe that we're nearly half way through the autumn term!

We had a visit from the Children's Air Ambulance service and our children are now considering ways that we could raise funds for the important work they do.

We had a harvest festival with donations to the Wallingford Food Bank and we are all enjoying learning so much about our topics. Year 2 and 3 even became Roman gladiators for an afternoon!

Our oldest children have a trip to the Ashmolean planned and we're all off to the pantomime at the Playhouse in Oxford soon.

Forest School continues to be one of our most popular activities and children have been enjoying learning about risk taking and the environment at the Hurst (when it hasn't been flooded).

Our children have also been enjoying science club, art club, multi-sports club and a songs and stories club.

We have an open morning for prospective families on **Thursday 14 November**. Please do come along and see what we can offer. There is no need to book. Just come any time between 9.30am and 11.30am. You will be offered a tour of the school and the chance to chat to children, staff and governors.

You can find out more about our school from our website here: <https://www.st-birinus-pri.oxon.sch.uk/>

Jo Staples
Headteacher



Oxfordshire Libraries

Regular events at Berinsfield Library

Digital Helper: Tuesdays 10am to 1pm

New time and day

Help in using smart phones, tablets and laptops. Support for those less confident with technology. Booking essential.



Rhymetime Wednesdays at 10.30am

November dates: 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

Gentle singing and rhyming fun for preschoolers and toddlers with toys, instruments and bubbles!



Knit & Natter

1st Tuesday of every month 2.30pm

Everyone and ideas welcome.



Library Book Club

last Friday of the month 2pm

Contact the library for this month's book or turn up to say hello and help choose the next one. All very welcome.



[@oxonlibraries](https://twitter.com/oxonlibraries) [f BerinsfieldLibrary](https://facebook.com/BerinsfieldLibrary)



Telephone 01865 328745
Email berinsfield.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk



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OFSTED
GOOD

LORD ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME

A comedy by Constance Cox
based on the short story by
Oscar Wilde

Directed by Mark Wilkin

7.30 pm
14th-16th November 2024

Dorchester Village Hall
7 Queen Street OX10 7HR

Tickets £12
ticketsource.co.uk/dads

*This amateur production of "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime" is presented
by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel
French Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk*

DADS
Dorchester Amateur Dramatics Society

DADS

Lord Arthur Savile's Crime

14-16 November

Prepare to be transported back to the 1920s where you will be entertained by a jolly tale featuring Lord Arthur Savile, his fiancée Miss Sybil Merton and Baines his butler. Undoubtedly inspired by the comedies of P. G. Wodehouse, Constance Cox has adapted Oscar Wilde's short story, Lord Arthur Savile's Crime into a fast-paced, witty comedy. The DADS cast is particularly strong for this production. Actors from across South Oxfordshire auditioned for the show and the cast of 10 contains several new faces.

Performances of Lord Arthur Savile's crime are at 7.30 pm from **Thursday 14 to Saturday 16 November**. Tickets, priced at £12, are already selling well so be sure to book early to avoid disappointment. Book online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/dads.



Miss Sybil Merton (Alice Hope), Baines (Mike Lord) and Lord Arthur Savile (Benoit Preece)

Pre-School

Dorchester Pre-School has had an excellent start to the new school year, We said 'Goodbye' to 16 at the end of July, so we have had a few new starters recently and they have all settled in very well. It is wonderful to see the children so happy to go into the preschool each morning! The Autumn term has been and gone in a flash, with lots of autumnal walks and leaf collecting for arts and crafts. We finished off the term with a wonderful Halloween disco celebration.

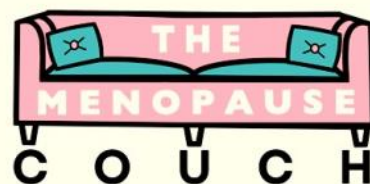
We still have some spaces left so please do get in touch as these fill up fast! We already have a list of new starters for September 2025! So please do get in touch with Helen the preschool manager at

manager@dorchesterpreschool.co.uk

for more information and to arrange a viewing of the setting. We have our website with relevant information and some pictures of the children enjoying their days there so please do have a look. We also have a Facebook page which is updated weekly with the activities every week. Our AGM, which took place on 9 October, was a success with some new committee members joining as we sadly said goodbye to our secretary and treasurer. We have since had these roles filled but would love more volunteers from the community to help with our wonderful setting, no matter how small. We are a charitable preschool so every penny really counts. We always need committee members to give advice and knowledge, so don't be shy.

Believe it or not, we will soon be starting to get ready for our nativity plays and Christmas fundraisers. So please keep a look out for when they will be. It is always such a magical time of the year for the children and we love participating in all the village activities.

Can you offer any voluntary work to the Pre-School? We are looking for the grounds and the outside perimeter to be maintained every few weeks. Please pop in if this is something you could offer. We are always happy to accept donations of things that we might find useful; at the moment we are on the look out for old pots and pans for the children to use in the mud kitchen and any donations of books or toys.



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menopause couch

Chiropodist

Wednesday 13 November

Village Hall

Appointment only

Call **07850 196714**



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20% of proceeds from each sale placed by
village residents will be donated to the
wonderful preschool and their fantastic work.

Free local drop offs.

Contact Molly to place orders:
molly@littlemorecandleco.com
07539223487

check out our website to browse:
www.littlemorecandleco.co.uk



The Dorchester Autumn Flower Show

The Dorchester Autumn Flower Show took place on Saturday 14 September. The colourful display of flowers, vegetables, home cooked goodies and photographs was a spectacular sight. We thank all those who took time to submit their entries and bake up such a delicious looking spread. There was a happy buzz in the afternoon as visitors and entrants alike came to marvel and celebrate the winning successes or eye-up deserving rivals. The committee were delighted to announce a new cup, awarded for the first time at this show to the child with most points. This was very deservedly presented to a very happy Silas Johnson who had a first prize entry in two of the children's categories. Well done, Silas.

The committee would like to thank Alison Myres for a very generous contribution towards the cup upgrade and restoration work which has enabled us to retain the cup's provenance and future proofing for award ceremonies in years to come. We also thank David Wilkinson and Janet

Delaine for their very many years of organisation of the Flower show and Chairmanship of the committee, and to Janet for her continued contribution to the plant sale.

We look forward to the Spring Flower Show scheduled for **12 April 2025**.

This year's winners

Runner Bean Plate: Best runner beans	Roger Seabrook
Pat Cheese Potato Cup: Best potatoes	Charles Dickerson
Vegetable Collection Pate: Veg class 1	Charles Dickerson
R Belcher Onion Cup: Best onions	Malcolm Airs
Jenny Nudds Tomato Cup	Nick Forman
Best vegetable award:	Mike Corran (for his chillies)
Fruit Plate:	Roger Seabrook (for his raspberries)
Blackwell photography Cup:	Jane Willis (for her Damselfly on a leaf)
Jerry Nudds Fruit Cake Plate	Charlotte Bennett
Victoria Sandwich Award	Steph Forman
Rose Plate—best rose in show	Megan Parry
H C Smith Dahlia Cup	Margaret Broadbent
Floral Art Cup	Janet Delaine
England in Bloom Cup: most points in flower classes	Janet Delaine
Amey Tankard: gentleman with most points in show	Charles Dickerson
Amey Rose Bowl: Lady with most points other than flower classes	Steph Forman
Tenpenny Cup Child with most points in	Silas Johnson



Photo: Gordon Roberts



Photo: Charlotte Bennett



Photo: Gordon Roberts




Photo: Gordon Roberts

Thank You!

A heartfelt thank to you to everyone who has already donated – Together we have raised an **impressive £1,000!**

BRIGHTEN OUR VILLAGE THIS SEASON

We'd like to give you a better idea of what our intention and ideas are

New decorations and lights for the tree outside the co-op in a cohesive scheme (red/gold/classic colours)  **Funding from the White Hart. Thank you!**



Smaller Christmas trees along the High Street

Wreaths on lamp posts

Decorations and lights by the war memorial

Lights along the bridge on Henley Road



A Christmas tree for the children

Children and parents can add their own decorations



We'd also like to encourage everyone around the village to decorate the outside of your house.

Our village pubs have donated prizes

1st – Dinner voucher for 2

2nd – Selection of wines

3rd – Lunch voucher for 2

(Judges will be representatives from the pubs – more information in next months Dorchester News)

If you'd like to fill our village with Christmas cheer. Please kindly make a donation using the **Go Fund Me** account.



For any queries: please contact dorchesterchristmas@gmail.com

Dr Kate Tiller, DL, OBE: a Tribute

Dorchester owes much to Dr Kate Tiller, who sadly died at the end of May. Tributes elsewhere have alluded to her many achievements in bringing local history to prominence at national, county and university level, but she also enabled local communities in Oxfordshire to appreciate and study their own history.

Dorchester was one such. Kate conducted several memorable evening classes here in the 1990s, notably one on 19th century Dorchester, as well as editing *Dorchester Abbey: Church and People*, published in 2005 to support the Abbey Campaign. She often included Dorchester examples in her writing; Dorchester rectory features in *Parsonages*, published in 2016, and *Remembrance and Community: War Memorials and Local History* (2013) discusses the saga of the installation of our war memorial. Her last commission for Dorchester was to advise on the history of the recently restored Beauforest brass in the shrine chapel.

She attended many Dorchester events, formally as one of Oxfordshire's Deputy Lieutenants, as well as enjoying concerts and local celebrations. She cut the cake with Mary Tame at the WI 100th anniversary and the *All our Yesterdays* exhibition and joined Queens Close residents for the Coronation tea in 2023. She loved to meet friends in The George and her last



visit to the tearoom was just three days before her death.

Alan Crosby, Editor of the national journal *The Local Historian*, having described Kate as 'one of the most influential and eminent local and regional historians of our time' ends his tribute in *Local History News* by mentioning her connection to Dorchester. 'We sat in Dorchester Abbey [earlier this year, the last time they met] and silently contemplated that wonderful building, and then discussed local history and the vari-

ous projects that she still hoped to finish. Over lunch in the George Inn, she even talked enthusiastically about its social history and timber-framed structure ... she told me that talking about local history had lifted her spirits...'

Margot Metcalfe

Chair Dorchester Historical Society and one of Kate Tiller's former students.



Warborough & Shillingford WI

First of all, I need to issue an apology to John Day of Hammer Lane, Warborough. He has been involved in alternative energy and reducing our carbon footprint since 2008 and he will be our speaker at the January WI meeting. In the October Magazine I mistakenly wrote that Dr. John Day, from the UK centre for Ecology would be our speaker. This was an error caused by using Google to find additional information; which goes to show that you cannot always rely on Google to give you the right answer.

Have you ever heard of Machu Picchu? This settlement, discovered in 1911 by Hiram Bingham, is believed to have been an important retreat for Inca royalty built about 1450. We learned many interesting facts about ancient Peru from our speaker Susan Pfunder, in October. Before the Incas domination of the Andes region of South America there were many disparate cultural groups. Through a combination of military strength, clever diplomacy and economic prosperity the Incas united the tribes into a cohesive empire. The Incas mastery of irrigation and methods of food storage meant they had some control over the harsh climatic conditions and arid land, creating stability where none had existed. Although it was by no means a benign civilization; human sacrifice was common to appease the gods (often children) and internal unrest flared up at times. It was gold that drew the Spanish conquistadors to conquer this part of the world and destroyed the Inca civilization. New diseases, passed to the indigenous

people, superior weapons and the capture and murder of the Inca Emperor, Atahualpa, contributed to the Spanish victory despite them being hugely outnumbered. However, high in the Andes, hidden by the cloud forest the Spanish never found Machu Picchu.

In November we host George McGavin who presents the TV programme 'It's a Wild Life'. Our December meeting will be the Christmas party and in January we will learn about the use of alternative sources of energy and how to reduce our carbon footprint from our speaker John Day of Warborough.

The WI meetings have a varied programme, there are speakers, outings, and activities. Being a member also entitles you to join in activities and competitions arranged by the Oxfordshire Federation. In November there is a coach trip to the V and A Museum, Also in November a lecture by the chair of the Oxfordshire Blue Plaques Association, talking about 'Women on Oxfordshire Blue Plaques' and in December there is an evening of festive poetry, music and song, to mention just a few. If you would like to try something different and meet new friends, come along to our monthly WI meeting, on the second Wednesday of every month in the St. Laurence Hall, Warborough. Members come from Dorchester, Shillingford and Warborough and if transport is an issue lifts can be arranged. Come and join us, we would love to meet you. .

Contact email: warboroughwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk
President - Sarah Allan **01865 858673**
or Secretary - Vicky Hart **01865 416437**

Memoirs

We were deeply saddened by the death of our dear father, John earlier this summer on 29 May. Thankfully, his four year battle with dementia finally came to an end, but the loss has left a big hole in the family. But what wonderful memories we all hold of a life lived to the full.

After moving down from Leek, John and Una had a very special and fulfilled time living in Dorchester for 17 years, from 1987 to 2005. These were some of the happiest years of John's life, as well as Una's. It was a huge wrench for them both when they left Dorchester, to retire to Leominster. They took many treasured memories with them, as did we all. They both loved the village life, a well-connected community, the caring kind-hearted congregation and linking their ecumenical faith through the Abbey and St Birinus, (including the annual St Birinus Pilgrimage involving both churches), John's routine loop walk with Toby around the Hurst and River Thames, the wonderful concerts in the Abbey...the list goes on. He was so dedicated to the parish and Abbey itself and thrived on this. He and Una often reminisced on their life in Dorchester with the delightful array of friends and characters in the village, the big garden with the beautiful flower beds that Una created and the cropped lawn that John took great pride in mowing, always ready for the next game of croquet. The garden was a great place for family gatherings, parties and parish events. Any friends we brought home would be struck by the warmth of both John and Una's welcome, (which seemed to fill the house) and the charm of the village. Here follows some of our memories:

The special times I value the most with my father, were when we had time as a family. Walks! – (some with dogs) mainly up hills - walks from Ewelme in the Chilterns, the Wittenham Clumps, the Black Mountains near Leominster and in Bath, Sion Hill, the Bath Skyline. One of the things he found hardest as his dementia worsened was his inability to stride out. My father was open and accepting of everyone, we as children met all sorts of people from different backgrounds. He achieved a great deal in his life as a vicar, and after his retirement in Leominster. He would not have been able to do this without my mother who supported him throughout. (Josephine)

At my 30th birthday party, which I held at home in Dorchester, John proposed the idea of a midnight tour of the Abbey.



Around 20 of us gathered and he lead us in the dark, through the back garden and around this huge ancient building, by torch light. He had us transfixed with mysterious stories of Sarah Fletcher and The Monk as well as the effigy of The Knight. He brought the whole building to life! His enthusiasm and excitement rubbed off on us all. It was certainly a night to remember. My friends were so taken by the general warmth and openness of both my parents, something that I took for granted at the time as I didn't know any different. It is certainly something I very much appreciate and cherish about them both. (Monica)

John would always have great stories from his childhood, which gave a sense that he was full of adventure. He enjoyed trips abroad on his motorbike with brother Tony (John was 16 at the time), travelling across Europe. He had amusing memories from his time working in Lynmouth as a waiter in a hotel, recounting funny stories which made it sound like Fawlty Towers! I have such fond memories of my parents and what they meant to each other. They had such fun together and there was a lot of laughter. This would be extended to family and friends – it is telling that they both kept in touch with people they met throughout their lives. (Christina)

To say that John and technology didn't mix would be a massive understatement! I can recall the many phone calls we had where I had to patiently explain to him how to use a mouse properly to open folders on his much-hated computer! Things were not easy for John after Una died in 2012, and I think we were worried about how he'd cope, but I was so proud of the way he lived an independent life and remained as outward looking as he was when she was alive. It was a real testament to his character. (Richard)

'Through living and ministering in Dorchester for 17 years, these following tributes express the impact he had on others. 'John was a marvellous, compassionate and wonderful Rector who was so well loved and supported by his family and Una. He had an impact on so many people's lives, both young and old. A very special person indeed.' (Jane Thrift)





'Both Una and John were wonderful people, always so welcoming and lovely to be with. He had a wonderful ability to be able to talk to strangers and anyone he met and make them feel special whoever they were, he was a real Christian and I feel we were very privileged to have him as our vicar in Dorchester.'

(Susan Jupp)

He was passionate about the Abbey as a building and the history it held, just as much as the worship that took place in it. Likewise, with the array of concerts and musical events over the years that he was honoured to host, some of which were the seedlings of the now Dorchester Festival.

The annual Abbey pet service introduced by John, gave local people in the village and beyond the chance to have a wide array of pets (including a donkey and a performing dog from the Globe Theatre!) blessed and acknowledged as treasured members of the family. It was a real entertainment for all to see the animals together, enjoying being in the spot light.

Around the Millennium, he led a team that managed to raise over 3 million for the Abbey, to get it restored and for the installation of underfloor heating, which ended the Abbey's previous reputation of being one of the coldest churches in the UK for musicians to play. John's influence was not limited to only the parish. In 1985, he was elected to the General Synod, where he was very much involved in the theological debates of the day. These included the ordination of women, redistribution of church income from wealthy to poorer parishes, remarriage of divorcees in church and promotion of homosexual clerics to high office, all of which he supported. He was always up to date with important current affairs and passion about righting the injustices in the world, often making reference to this in his preaching. As a partner in an ecumenical marriage, he seized the chances that came his way to foster closer relations between Catholics and Anglicans. With members of his

congregation in Leek he was involved in founding the Fellowship of Contemplative Prayer, which recognises the value of silence. This greatly influenced the way he led and delivered prayers within a service.

'John was unique; a real character, full of enthusiasms, passions, interests.' This description written by Michael Goode, a dear friend and colleague, sums him up very well. He had such an enthusiastic interest in people and places, always interested to meet new people, often finding a connection or common ground, or wanting to explore and see what was around the next corner.

John missed Una greatly when she died in 2012, as did we all. But he somehow managed to keep her spirit alive. He often said he could feel her presence and that was evident in the way he continued to live – seeing the funny side of a situation, keeping in close contact with friends and family, entertaining friends and gathering neighbours together for drinks or meals in both Leominster and Bath, as a catalyst for others to meet and get to know one another.

The funeral itself was so special and a real celebration of his life. For us, being back in Dorchester together was like a homecoming. It made us feel so nostalgic for our time as a family living there. We felt blessed to have so many different people wanting to help make it the memorable occasion that it was. The wonderful church choir (which John took great pleasure in singing with), the bell ringers striking 84 rings to mark each year of his life and the fantastic team of bakers from the Abbey Tearoom. We will be forever thankful for all those who helped make this such an unforgettable and poignant day. And the warm hearted welcome we received from all. We are so glad that there was space for John to be buried in the village cemetery, the perfect place for him to be.

May he now rest in peace and be united with his beloved Una.

Josephine, Monica, Christina and Richard Crowe



Dorchester Abbey Christmas Cards

All profits to Dorchester Abbey

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*Angels
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*Christ Child
13x13cm*

Other Abbey Cards
available from previous years



Dorchester's Living Advent Calendar



At 6.30pm every evening in December
a different advent window will be lit up.
Gather to enjoy the countdown & some refreshments
or simply follow the trail with a map.



Christmas Eve light up in Dorchester Abbey
at 4pm before the 4.30pm crib service

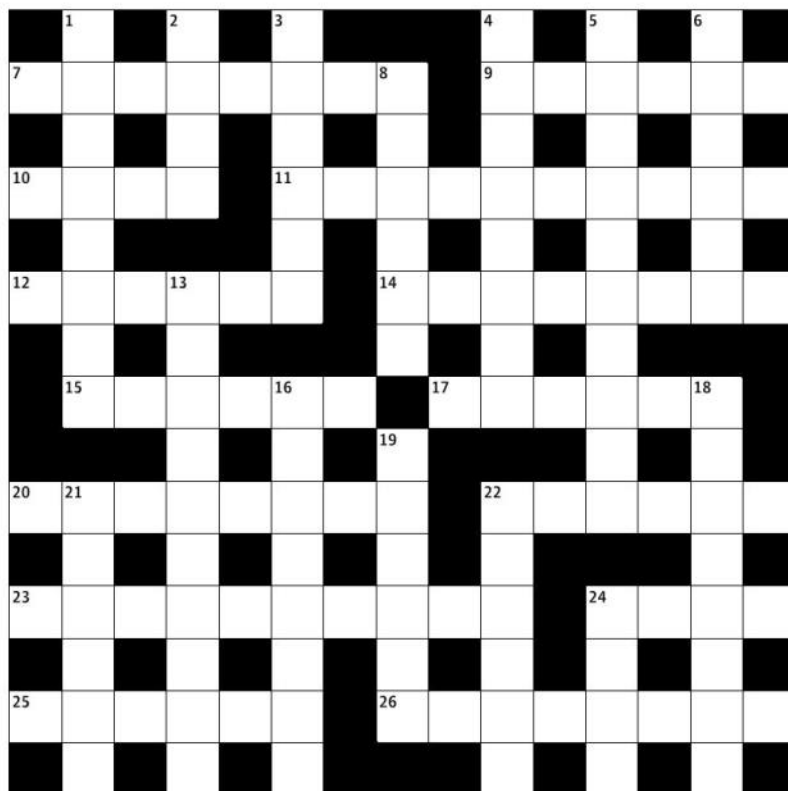


Maps £5 on sale in the Coop from mid Nov
In aid of Dorchester St Birinus School

Light up Dorchester for Christmas!



Dorchester News Crossword No.34



Across

- 7 Jerks at the National Trust were some time to the North (The hawks are there in US) (8)
 9 An audible attempt carries weight to become a deity. (6)
 10 In the canasta regulations there is a leading player. (4)
 11 This helper starts the climate control and nearly goes along with the church. (10)
 12 Get back to dry fish. (6)
 14 Negative movement when November comes and Alpha leaves to find competition. (8)
 15 Article on Royal mail ship measures heat energy. (5)
 17 It's not too bad when Jacques speaks of a hundred. (6)
 20 Edward following music with energy got high! (8)
 22 Stay on the electricity supply. (6)

- 23 Leads to an article with poorly shred peas. (10)
 24 Hit the bottom on piano. (4)
 23 Listen to the dwarfs getting to the river. (6)
 26 Taking out Sierra for Gallic telephone call. (8)

Down

- 1 Crash some French lorry almost at a junction. (8)
 2 Cause trouble when Irish street is backed up. (4)
 3. Knocked for six when a wag has told what is inside. (6)
 4 Come down heavily to the East of Paris, it could be a rush to get away. (8)
 5 John Stewart is on the way to leading paper (and that's current). (10)
 6 You would get a large bill if you were a member of the Ramphastidae family. (6)
 8 To get a short piece of underwear he may have stolen a pound. (6)
 13 New mothers do this and it could be at the seaside! (10)
 16 There is a similarity to a test in golf. (8)
 18 Haircutting maybe gets short measure in a Hertfordshire town. (8)
 19 Ladies get dancing aspirations. (6)
 21 Large part of the food chain for this raptor. (6)
 22 Strangely, ecstasy cures and makes a saving. (6)
 24 Intercity can be taken both ways. (4)



Football Results Oxfordshire Senior League Div 2



21/09/2024	Launton Sports Development	1	3	Dorchester
05/10/2024	Dorchester	1	2	Oakley United

Presidents Cup

28/09/2024	Garsington	0	3	Dorchester
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Oxon FA Intermediate Cup

12/10/2024	Hornton First	0	4	Dorchester
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No, it's not a photo of Dorchester. But could it be?

In September, an audience of interested Dorchester residents heard how villagers in Hook Norton had conceived, designed and delivered this beautiful low carbon cluster of houses, now rented exclusively to local people at a rent they can afford.

Their journey wasn't easy. It required time and hard work building partnerships, seeking funders, working with councils, a local housing association and others, but along with hundreds of other towns and villages across the country, a Community Land Trust has been able to reverse the decline in affordable housing that they, like us, have suffered in their communities over the years.

The Hook Norton example is exciting, but we also heard from Community First Oxfordshire, of a range of different models, partnerships and approaches underway across the county and beyond; not all as ambitious as Hook Norton but all showing that there are things we can do if we work together.

The meeting in the Abbey was convened to respond to the Parish Council's priority, as expressed in the Dorchester 2030 strategy, to encourage more affordable homes in the village. The strong sentiment from the meeting, having heard the presentations, was that we should take the first steps and form our own Community Land Trust (CLT).

A CLT is the vehicle used to develop and manage housing in a way that is controlled by and for the local community. How it actually does this depends on a range of factors including how it can find land and at what price, how it works with landowners, housing associations, developers, financiers and councils. So, incorporation is just the first step to enabling community involvement and not a commitment to any specific pathway. What we do after that will be up to a board that will need to be elected and the ideas and support of the wider local community.

A Steering Group, chaired by John Taylor, has led the exploration so far, and worked closely with the Parish Council, as well as Community First, Oxfordshire. We can continue to get help and advice from them and the national CLT network, including on the initial process of incorporating.

Alongside these steps, we need to start practical discussions within the village. Some people signed up at the meeting to hear more and stay in touch. We would also like to hear from people who weren't able to come to the meeting or didn't leave their details. We will let you know of progress and invite you to the next open meeting, when we hope to formally constitute the CLT and elect the board.

We also want to hear from anyone who has ideas or offers of land that we might possibly seek to acquire or partner to develop, even if it's just a first idea to explore without commitment.

Do please email John Taylor at johnntaylor@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk or Mark.goldring@yahoo.co.uk. We will then keep you involved as plans develop, or start a discussion on how you can be involved.

Imagine having ten or twenty new homes in the village so that young people don't have to live with their parents or move away, so that the school roll grows and our valued shops, pubs and community facilities are fully used. We can't do it all at once, but we can make a start.

Mark Goldring

On behalf of Dorchester Affordable Housing Steering Group



'Follow The Stars' 2024 – Macmillan Carols

The annual *'Follow the Stars'* Christmas Carol Concert in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support has been a highlight of Oxford's Christmas calendar for the past 27 years. This year it will be returning to the splendour of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on **Friday 6 December 2024**, bringing the highest quality musical performances and festive readings to a packed audience.

This is not only a huge fundraising event (last year raising a staggering £80,000 for Macmillan) but also a celebration of world class talent that will thrill everyone in the run up to Christmas. The star-studded cast of celebrities this year will include Toby Jones, Shaun Evans, Jason Isaacs and Gugu Mbatha-Raw who will be enchanting us with their literary readings, as always interspersed with breathtaking musical performances and gloriously uplifting carols. The music will be performed by Oxford's pre-eminent vocal ensemble, the Oxford Bach Soloists, conducted by Stephen Grahl, the Director of Music at Trinity College, Cambridge.

Around 97% of Macmillan Cancer Support's work is funded by people like you. There are around 3 million people living with cancer in the UK today and more than 360,000 are diagnosed every year. Right now, those who have cancer are counting on us for help with paying bills, going through difficult treatment or simply with how they're feeling. By joining us at "Follow the Stars" you will be actively helping towards Macmillan's invaluable services as they support people living with cancer.

Please don't hesitate: Book your tickets now at www.ticketsoxford.com or in person at The Oxford Playhouse. The Concert will also be live-streamed and free to view online via our JustGiving fundraising page – justgiving.com/fundraising/follow-the-stars.

"The music in particular was absolutely mind-blowing." Toby Jones

"Such an incredible charity." Alison Balsom



Dorchester Abbey welcomes the Bishop of Goma

It was so very good to welcome Bishop Martin Gordon to our services at Dorchester Abbey on the morning of Sunday 13 October. Martin is one of our mission partners, via the Church Mission Society, who we pray for and support in his role as Bishop of Goma, in the Democratic Republic of Congo. With his wife Anthea, who works for Tear Fund, and their three children Silas, Zachary and Imogen, he lives beneath an active volcano and leads the church in a war-torn country. He even brought some volcanic rock to show us! We thought much about what it means to follow Jesus today - in Goma and in Dorchester. We will keep them all in our prayers. You can find out more here: <https://www.gordonsingoma.org/>



From the Chair of the Parish Council



I'm delighted to say that over 40 residents attended the Community Land Trust meeting in the Abbey on 24 September. And there was resounding support for proceeding to set up a Trust to develop and hold affordable housing so that it can provide housing for many years to come. The next step, of course, is a difficult one, identifying possible plots of land with landowners willing to work with the Trust. So, the first of many challenges to come but each journey starts with a first step so this is a great beginning. There is a longer article explaining more in Dorchester News but I wanted you to know that Parish Council is fully behind this initiative on the community's behalf and intends to ensure there is a close working relationship between the Trust and the Parish Council both in setting up the Trust but also its operation in the years ahead. This is, hopefully, a big development for Dorchester and we hope to make it a success.

I was so disappointed and frankly angry to hear that Bishops Court Farm have felt compelled to close many of their tracks as a result of a brutal attack on their new ram and the killing of two lambs by dogs. Everyone I have spoken to shares my understanding of the position this put the farm in and with a heavy heart we support their decision. Hopefully the farm will be able to reconsider some reopening of what is, of course, private land, in due course. In the meantime, someone out there should be feeling thoroughly ashamed

of themselves as they have let the community down and abused the hospitality of the farm.

I know many of us are impatient to see progress on the bypass speed, noise and accidents. The Parish Council recently asked me to write to our new MP, to the head of the Vision Zero initiative at OCC who are looking to drive down road deaths in the county, and also to the responsible officer at Thames Valley Police. I am pleased to say we have had good responses to our approaches and whilst it always takes time to get action on the grounds there is a clear commitment around to making the A4074 safer and some encouraging timescales which our Traffic working group will be getting involved in. Frankly this is the first sign of a positive response after a number of years of effort; so fingers crossed this turns into something meaningful in due course.

After 18 years serving the Parish Council, Mark Williams has decided to leave the council at the end of this year and concentrate on other things, not least his role in making sure our village hall is a success, which you will have read about in last month's Dorchester News. Over those many years of service including four as my predecessor as Chair, Mark has done much to maintain and improve our community. So I'd like to thank him on behalf of the community. Mark's departure will leave a vacancy so the Council will be agreeing a process to coopt someone to fill the gap. We will announce the process in due course, but, in the meantime, if you are interested and want to understand more about what the role entails then do please talk to me or any of the other councillors.

Mike Corran

Chair, Dorchester Parish Council

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Parish Council Notices

Monthly Meetings 2024

The November Parish Council Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 13 November**, the December meeting on **Wednesday 11 December**.

Council meetings commence at 7.30 p.m. and are normally held in the back meeting room of the Village Hall but see notices for November meeting.

The Agenda will be posted on Village notice boards and on the new Parish Council website **www.dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk** - three clear days in advance of the meeting.

All Parish Council meetings are open to the public. A resident who wishes to raise any matter of concern is welcome to do so at the start of the meeting.

Contacting the Parish Council

The Parish Clerk is Jenny Welham. She can be contacted on **07444 239077** or at **parishclerk@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk**.

Cllr Mike Corran, the Chairman, can be contacted via **chairman@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk**

The Parish Council's new website is **www.dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk**

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From your District Councillor... ...Robin Bennett



Joint Local Plan update

Following on from the recent special Cabinet and Council meetings, where approval was given for the South and Vale districts' combined Joint Local Plan (JLP) to be published for comment, officers are now busy preparing for the next stage. Details will be available on the council website www.southoxon.gov.uk/jointlocalplan

The plan has been available for comment since 1 October – this is an opportunity for stakeholders to let the councils know if they think the JLP meets all the relevant requirements. The councils are aiming to submit it, along with the comments we've received, to the Planning Inspectorate for formal examination in December.

This is a more technical part of the process as two highly successful public consultations were carried out during the development of the plan, which were recognised and commended at national awards ceremonies. We're at this stage significantly earlier than originally planned, thanks to hard work from a large number of staff from both councils.

Government planning consultation

The council has responded to the government's proposed changes to the national planning policy framework (NPPF). As well as the much-publicised changes to housing targets, the consultation included a range of proposals, including increasing planning fees, the criteria for the government intervening in local plan development, and appropriate thresholds for certain Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. Proposed changes to the NPPF could have a long-lasting impact on the future of our area. You can find the council's robust response on the website, www.southoxon.gov.uk.

Recycling and waste collections were disrupted by the recent flooding – in such situations, SODC officers will post regular updates on social media and on the council's website. The council's advice to residents is to leave your bins out and our crews will aim to return to as soon as possible, where it is safe to do so. If bins haven't been emptied after three days, residents can contact **03000 610 610**.

Councillor Community Grant Scheme

The 2024/25 Councillor Community Grant Scheme is open. The funds can be used to support local 'not for profit' organisations whose work benefits residents, now also including parish councils. The funding is ideal for projects which are relatively low in costs and are expected to be completed within a year. They start at £250 with a £5,000 upper limit. The total project cost of applications for capital projects must be £15,000 or less. Contact me for more info or to discuss your idea.

<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/community-support/grants/councillor-community-grants/>

Save the date for the Eco Fair

Didcot Eco Fair returns to Cornerstone on **Saturday 2 November** from 11.00am to 3.00pm when we will be celebrating all things green and showcasing our districts' fantastic sustainable businesses, with a clothing swap, great ideas on how to avoid food waste and advice on how to save energy.

Centre stage at this free family-friendly event will be the Eco Marketplace with a variety of eco-friendly stalls specialising in handmade products, clothing, food and drink.

Robin.Bennett@southoxon.gov.uk
tel. 01865 858680
m. 07979 646815

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From your County Councillor... ...Robin Bennett



Community Resilience

The main story in our area over the last month has clearly been the flooding, by some estimates three times the average rainfall for September fell in a couple of days. Clearly, this overwhelmed many drainage systems and led to widespread flooding.

At OCC's Place Scrutiny committee we spoke to representatives from the County's flood response team, SODC, the Environment Agency and Thames Water. One clear message is that at times like these, all agencies get overwhelmed so community resilience is vital. There is quite a lot of support available at the County Council in terms of developing resilience plans so please do contact the team if this would be of help, or have a look at the community resilience web pages.

The Oxfordshire Flood Toolkit is still the main central hub providing information to homeowners, businesses, landowners, and communities on a range of flood-related topics such as risk areas around the county, preparing for and recovering from an emergency, and roles within the local authority. The Toolkit allows for flooding reports to be made directly to the council.

<https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com>

It is **always** worth reporting flooding incidents as it helps the council have up-to-date information on which areas are at risk of flooding and may need extra support.

We also looked at the issue of keeping gulleys and drains clear, making clear that more needs to be done on this. Please do continue to report any blocked road drains you see via FixMyStreet, as (although not perfect) this remains the best way to get them done promptly. There are also some funding sources available for longer-term flood prevention measures for communities, both via SSEN and sometimes via the councils.

Local transport schemes

I am chasing up progress on various transport schemes in the area, including a road crossing for the A415 at Tollgate Rd in Culham, a pinch point in Garsington, and the A4074 corridor study which will look at speed limits along the A4074. Council officers are in particular looking at potential options and ideas to improve safety on the Dorchester bypass. In addition, a decision from the government-appointed inspector on the HIF1 scheme (which connects Milton interchange, Didcot and a new river bridge at Culham before rejoining the road between Clifton Hampden and Golden Ball roundabout) is expected soon.

More locally, it was great to see the 'siding out' of the path to Meadside and onwards to the main road, allowing safer walking to the Shillingford bus stop. I had forgotten how wide the path is! Next job is to try to get the cracked surface improved.

Robin Bennett

robin.bennett@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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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 reseal 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 7.00pm 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 see website (www.cornexchange.org.uk) for updates.

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

November

Sun 3	The Room Next Door (12A)
Mon 4	The Room Next Door (12A)
Thurs 7	The Room Next Door (12A)
Fri 8	The Apprentice (15)
Sun 10	The Apprentice (15)
Mon 11	The Apprentice (15)
Tues 12	The Apprentice (15)
Wed 13	The Apprentice (15) 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Thurs 14	Heretic (15)
Fri 15	Heretic (15)
Sat 16	Heretic (15)
Sun 17	Heretic (15)
Mon 18	Heretic (15)
Tues 19	Heretic (15)
Wed 20	Soundtrack to a Coup d'Etat (PG) 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Fri 22	Paddington in Peru (PG)
Sun 24	Paddington in Peru (PG)
Mon 25	Paddington in Peru (PG)
Tues 26	Paddington in Peru (PG)
Wed 27	Paddington in Peru (PG) 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Thurs 28	The Mountain Within Me (12A)
Fri 29	Small Things Like These (12A)
Sat 30	Small Things Like These (12A)

Live Screening

Friday, 1 Nov, 7:30pm Saturday, 2 Nov, 2:30pm

The Royal Opera – Wolf Witch Giant Fairy

Tickets £15 (adults), £12 (seniors), £6 (under 18s)

This special screening is 65 minutes long and is geared towards a family audience. A presenter will appear on screen at the beginning of the show to introduce the production to families and introduce children to the wonderful world of Opera! Sung in English with subtitles

Red Riding Hood is tasked with delivering bread to her Grandmother, deep in the heart of the fairy-tale forest. But en route Red meets a cunning Wolf who tricks her into taking a different path. Along the way Red stumbles into a colourful cast of characters, including a scary witch, a talking cat and a rather persuasive Peddler.

Tuesday, 5 November, 7.00pm

The Phantom of the Opera at the Royal Albert Hall

Tickets £15 (adults), £12 (seniors), £8 (under 18s)

Andrew Lloyd Webber's The Phantom Of The Opera is a worldwide entertainment phenomenon. It has been staged in 145 cities across 27 countries and its box office sales eclipse Avatar, Titanic and Star Wars. Phantom Of The Opera At The Albert Hall stars Ramin Karimloo as 'The Phantom' and Sierra Boggess as 'Christine'. They are joined by a supporting cast and orchestra of over 200.

Thursday, 21 November, 7.00pm

Girl from the North Country

Tickets £15 (adults), £12 (seniors), £8 (under 18s)

It's 1934 in Duluth, Minnesota. We meet a group of wayward travellers whose lives intersect in a guesthouse filled with music, life and hope. Written and directed by celebrated playwright Conor McPherson and featuring Tony Award-winning orchestrations by Simon Hale, Girl From The North Country reimagines 20 legendary songs of Bob Dylan as they've never been heard before.

Live on Stage

Saturday 9 November, 7:30pm

ABBA Sensation

Tickets £18

Widely considered to be one of the best ever Abba tribute acts. A stunning stage show which combines costume changes, lighting effects and a faithful reproduction of the Abba sound. The band loves audience participation so you can sing or clap along. Sadly the Corn Exchange has no room for dancing, but we are sure you will be dancing all the way home!

Saturday 23 November, 7:30pm

Varnish with Jonathan Mayer

Tickets £15

It takes star quality to get adopted. And Jonathan Mayor has star quality. The play begins as An Audience with Jonathan Mayor, but the fantasy soon glitches to reveal a darker truth. Varnish is a solo show, performed by stand-up comedian, Jonathan Mayor. It is a fictionalised version of his life written by new playwright, Janet Taylor, based on hours of interviews. The play explores transracial adoption and the fracturing of identity that happens when a mixed-race child is brought up by white parents. Suitable for ages 14 plus.

Advertising in Dorchester News

To advertise in Dorchester News please contact Charlotte Garside, Advertising Manager at

DorchNews.advertising@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

one week before the deadline for editorial copy given on page 2.

Costs per issue are for an eighth of a page £12.75 mono, £13.75 colour; quarter page £25.50 mono, £27.50 colour; half page £38.25 mono, £41.25 colour and full page £51.00 mono, £55.00 colour. There are ten issues per year.

Day by day

Fri 1 Nov	St Birinus Festival Dorchester Abbey
Sat 2 Nov	St Birinus Festival Dorchester Abbey
Sun 3 Nov	4th Before Advent All Saints Day 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am All Souls
Sat 12 Oct	Dorchester Abbey Museum Open 2.00-4.00pm Abbey Guest House
Sun 10 Nov	3rd Before Advent Remembrance Day 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.15am Remembrance Service
Wed 13 Nov	Chiropodist Village Hall Appointment only; see page xx Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
Thurs 14 Nov	St Birinus Primary School Open morning 9.30am to 11.30am St Birinus School DADS <i>Lord Arthur Savile's Crime</i> 7.30pm Village Hall
Fri 15 Nov	Russell Watson Magnificent Buildings Concert Tour 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey DADS <i>Lord Arthur Savile's Crime</i> 7.30pm Village Hall
Sat 16 Nov	OSJ Mozart/Beethoven/Bruchner 7.00pm Dorchester Abbey DADS <i>Lord Arthur Savile's Crime</i> 7.30pm Village Hall
Sun 17 Nov	2nd Before Advent 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Family Service 5.00pm Evensong



Wed 20 Nov	Culham & District Horticultural Samantha Hopes, <i>Plants with a story.</i> 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Sat 23 Nov	Christmas Fete 2.00pm John Masefield House Benson Choral Society Choral Music for Royal Occasions 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Sun 24 Nov	Christ The King 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Morning Worship
Wed 27 Nov	Lunch Club 12.30pm Village Hall Dorchester Historical Society Peter Adamson <i>A Town called Wallingford</i> 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Thurs 28 Nov	Moving Music Concerts Sound Resource 11.30am and 2.00pm Dorchester Abbey
Sat 30 Nov	Dorchester Abbey Christmas Market 10.00am-5.00pm Dorchester Abbey Dorchester Abbey Museum Open 10.00am-5.00pm

Bonfire Night November 5th Remember the hedgehogs



Weekly events

Tuesday	Coffee Morning 11.00am Dorchester Abbey Abbey Bell Ringers Practice 7.30pm
Wednesday	New Baby and Toddler Time 9.30-10.45am Dorchester Abbey Mobile Post Office 2.00-3.00pm but may vary Outside Co-op
Thursday	Wellbeing Walks 10.00am Outside Co-op Pickleball St Birinus School playground
Friday	Abbey Junior Choir Practice 6.00pm Abbey Senior Choir Practice 7.00pm

See also the Parish Council website:
www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Weekly events in the Village Hall

Tuesday	Move Together with Jo 1.30pm Yoga 7.30pm
Wednesday	Busby Dance for children 3.15pm Pilates 5.30pm Tango 7.30pm See dorchesteronthamesvillagehall.org.uk/ #calendar for additional one-off events.

Parish Registers

Baptisms

15 Sept	Georgina Grace Mason
15 Sept	Hamish Austen Mason
15 Sept	Shannon Mason
22 Sept	Arthur Thomasz Szyja

For current information about other services
at Dorchester Abbey see
www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

For St Birinus RC Church go to:
www.stbirinus.co.uk

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 **01865 340007**, email admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

HIRE OF DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

To hire our Village Hall, contact Emily Moore (interim) bookings@dotvh.org.uk or **01865 689452**.

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

FAULTS AND COMPLAINTS

POTHOLE, STREET OR ROAD PROBLEMS

Abandoned vehicles, dog fouling, flyposting or graffiti, fly tipping or litter, street cleaning, such as broken glass in a cycle lane, unlit lampposts, potholes can be reported on fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk. In an emergency, call **0345 310 1111**.

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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.morerecycling.co.uk

POWER CUTS

If you suffer a power cut call **105** to get **National Grid** who will put you through to the network operator.

ANIMAL WELFARE

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

MOBILE POST OFFICE

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BUS SERVICES

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Fri - 12.10, 12.40.

To Didcot Station: Mon & Wed - 10.15, 12.35*.

From Didcot Station: Mon & Wed - 10.50, 13.00*.

* Not Didcot Tesco nor Broadway
Dorchester times are at the War Memorial.
See: www.goingforwardbuses.com

Other Bus Services

Service X40 every 30 minutes from the bypass at the end of Drayton Road to Oxford and Wallingford. Information about bus services, is available from www.traveline.info and **08712 002233**.

AGE UK

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

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www.wallingford.volunteercentre@gmail.com

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Clerk is Jenny Welham who can be contacted on parishclerk@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk

SODC CONTACT

Telephone **01235 422422**
Email: enquiries@southoxon.gov.uk
South Oxfordshire District Council
Abbey House
Abbey Close
Abingdon OX14 3JE

USEFUL CONTACTS

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01865 340007

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

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Dorchester Abbey Museum E-mail
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REFUSE COLLECTIONS

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Tues 12 Nov **Green**
Tues 19 Nov **Black**
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Weekdays from 7.00am

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The recycling centre at Oakley Wood (off the A4130) is open 8.00am – 5.00pm seven days a week. Check website www.oxford.gov.uk/

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Dorchester Abbey Christmas Market

*Saturday 30th November
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