

Parish Council Report

The appearance of spring bulbs poking through around the Recreation Ground heralds the ebb of winter, and indeed the last few months of the current Parish Council term. With this in mind, we will be setting our focus on completing some key projects in this time. Supporting the delivery of the Neighbourhood Planning Statement is our biggest priority, which has reached the significant milestone of a first draft, so many thanks to the NPS team, steered by excellent co-ordination (and delicately applied pressure) from Sue Powell. Keep up the amazing work everyone!

Elsewhere in the parish, we have been considering several planning applications - the latest in a recent series of diverse proposals, including ones relating to some of the Listed buildings of the parish. With the additional information required to support Listed Buildings planning consent, these have given us all some new and interesting insights to the heritage of our village and also helped us to understand how the balance between protecting that heritage and allowing buildings to evolve and remain cherished homes is developed during the application process.

Commenting on planning applications is one of the key areas of Parish Council responsibility, but it's also important to remember that the wider community has the opportunity to take part in the process by making comments on applications as well. As we are all no doubt aware, there is considerable pressure around this area for development that has the potential to impact our village. You can sign up for planning alerts for Moulsford by searching for 'planning alerts' on the SODC website [www.southoxon.gov.uk](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk) and entering your email and postcode.

As we head into our final months, the current PC has only a few meetings left. If you're interested in potentially getting involved as a Councillor yourself or want to find out about current goings-on, please do come along and see us soon!

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Becoming a councillor

The Oxford Association of Local Councils (OALC) has put together a one hour session which sets out the basics of being a councillor with the opportunity to ask questions as well.

The sessions are one hour long, no need to book, on:

15th March 2-3pm

Zoom joining details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87125012109?pwd=VzZkYzkwajlqTTJSWEdrbmVxTUUs2QT09>

Meeting ID: 871 2501 2109

Passcode: 386520

# Parish Council Matters continued

## What is a Parish Councillor - Sarah Elvy

When I stood for election as a councillor on MPC, I did so because I knew all our councillors were standing down and I wanted to ensure Moulsoford had representation. Having been inactive on the volunteering side in the village since coming off the MEC some 10 years previously, my motivation was simply to give something back.

Over the last 4 years, I have been well-educated on what's important here and have a greater understanding of how our many volunteers help keep Moulsoford in good shape, a warm, engaging community, well represented at local level. Of course, there have been good experiences (many) and not so good (strengthening apparently!) but throughout I've benefited from a supportive community of councillors, both current and past, who have shared counsel and experience and lent an ear from time to time.

We all know that the parish council has little power in the district but it does have influence, so maintaining our local voice on matters impacting our lives is important. Our current participation with the NPS pilot scheme was undertaken in that spirit. It will be taken into account by SODC and developers when looking at new and existing projects. It provides an insight into what makes Moulsoford unique, what we seek to preserve and what we want to enhance. And it's an evolving document which can be updated and expanded in future years to help councillors at parish and district levels make well-informed, consistent judgements in the future. It's needed a lot of work and that's still ongoing, but it's an important document for Moulsoford and something I'm very pleased to have played a part in.

If you are thinking of standing as a councillor, you can find out more here: <https://www.oalc.org.uk/event-detail/00000000166> (So you want to be a councillor)

### Village Planning - Find Out What's Been Going On!

The Neighbourhood Planning Statement (NPS) team have been analysing your input from the village survey and have now drafted up our village planning statement, which will be used to help guide planning decisions over the next few years.

Before submitting the final version to South Oxfordshire District Council, we would like to share some of the results and recommendations with you and give you a chance to comment.

We are therefore planning a meeting to discuss this as follows:

Friday 17th March, 7.30pm at the Moulsoford Pavilion

Look forward to seeing lots of you there! :)

## Planning Applications and Decisions

Moulsoford News and Planning deadlines invariably mean that the planning information below is out of date by the time of reading. For a current view of planning, please visit the online planning portal here:

<http://www.moulsoford-pc.org.uk/community/moulsoford-on-thames-15214/planning-applications/>

P23/S0521/LB P23/S0520/FUL Cranford House School Moulsoford OX10 9HT	Alterations and extension to kitchen/dining room.	
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## Free service supports thousands of residents in Oxfordshire with their home energy

Residents in Oxfordshire can benefit from the advice and support of Better Housing Better Health, a service that helps those worrying about their home energy to create warmer, healthier and happier homes. Last year, through the service's free helpline and their free home visit service (BHBH+), their team of trained advisors helped over 2500 residents, with the aim this year to help even more.

The service can help:

- Residents who are finding it hard to understand energy bills, pay for fuel or read meters
- Access funding to replace old and broken heating systems
- Access funding for insulation measures
- Reduce damp, condensation and mould by better ways of managing a home
- Understand and programme heating controls
- Making onward referrals to additional support services, such as Benefits advice and debt support
- For some residents they may be eligible for additional heating support depending on their situation

To speak to the friendly team, call 0800 107 0044 or visit [www.bhbh.org.uk](http://www.bhbh.org.uk) to complete the online referral form or find our e-mail address.

## County Councillor's Report - OCC

**CLlr Felix Bloomfield**

### The Queens Green Canopy

250 Jubilee Citizen trees were planted at Wittenham Clumps last Friday (2 Dec) as part of the Queens Green Canopy Oxfordshire.

New British citizens living in Oxfordshire were offered the opportunity to donate a tree for planting on their behalf. This was part of the Queens Green Canopy Platinum Jubilee earlier in the year. Since the start of the programme in February 825 trees have been donated.

Following the wishes of His Majesty the King upon the passing of Her majesty, the initiative has been extended until the end of March 2023 to allow more people to plant trees in memoriam.



## Council Renews its Commitment to the Armed Forces

As a Military Champion for Oxfordshire I am delighted OCC have renewed their commitment to our armed forces as a new law comes into place.

The Armed Forces Covenant, which I signed in 2011 is a voluntary 'promise from the nation' that those serving or have served in the armed forces (and their families) should be treated fairly and not disadvantaged in their day-to-day lives.

Oxfordshire is home to

25% of the UK's RAF personnel and 49% of RAF Reservists

50% of UK Army logistics capacity

2,200 cadets across various units including Sea Scouts

6,500 recipients of armed forces pension/compensation

We also have five major military bases including RAF Benson an important part of this Devision.

We encourage all organisations and businesses to consider how they can uphold the ambitions of the Armed Forces Covenant and support Oxfordshires armed forces community.

## Traffic Restrictions in Oxford

The ruling administration at its Cabinet meeting last week pushed ahead with its trial for six new 'Bus Gates' whereby car owners will be restricted to the number of journeys they can make into Oxford. This comes on top of road closures in the form of Low Traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs) and Zero Emission Zones.

You will be aware from local and national media these divisive schemes are causing much concern amongst residents and business owners.

£73,000 has already been spent repairing vandalized plastic bollards used in the LTNs. Steel bollards are now to be installed at a cost of £100,000 after the 'unprecedented levels of vandalism'.

The Conservative Opposition are questioning the vast sums of money being poured into these unpopular schemes, while rural residents are complaining that budgets for some highway matters, footpath repair, etc. are inadequate or experiencing long delays.

## Motorcycle Speeding/Noise Issues

Motorcycle noise and speeding issues continue to be a concern for residents living along the A4074 and I am delighted Matthew Barber and his team at Thames Valley Police are meeting residents from a number of parishes to discuss their concerns. I had a meeting (12 Dec) to discuss a strategy for the A4074 corridor at which I raised feedback from residents and look forward to working with TVP where possible.

Spring is around the corner and planning is under way for the social season ahead.

A highlight this year is going to be the very special occasion of the King's Coronation on Sunday 7th May at our Pavilion. The full timetable and itinerary will be made known in April's Moulsford News but rest assured it will be a glorious celebration of our new Monarch.

On to more regular matters, our next event is the village Quiz night on Friday 24th March with fish and chips (but bring your own booze, or stay sharper with alcohol free perhaps?). You can set up a team or indeed join one for this great community event, just call Twinks for details on 01491 651548.

It feels that Easter will be with us quicker than we think, so keep in mind the kids Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday morning, meet by the Pavilion 10.30am to find out what the Easter bunny has left around the Recreation Ground.

Our first summer Social will be the popular Bangers and Bubbles on Friday 21st April, and we are then aiming to run all Fridays thereafter for the season.

Keep Friday June 16th free subject to confirmation we hope to run the village boat trip again; full details to follow in April's Moulsford News.

Last, but definitely not least, myself and the Events Committee would like to say a very big Thank-you to Rob Longden, who is stepping down from the committee after many years, following a recent move out of the parish. Rob has been a rock on the events and without him at times it would have been a struggle to get the Friday nights going particularly with the beer logistics, so we raise a glass for Rob: cheers!

With Rob's departure and a busy season ahead, we are keen to find fresh volunteers to join and help out on the committee or lend a valuable hand. It's a great way of helping your community and maintaining one of the key things that makes Moulsford so special. To find out more, call me on 07831 152900 or indeed email me at: [wildlifenigel@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wildlifenigel@hotmail.co.uk). Any help is greatly appreciated.

## Moulsford Parish Council Meeting

**Thursday, 9th Mar 2022**  
7.30pm in the Pavilion  
Everyone welcome!

## Moulsford Events Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, 8th Mar 2022**  
7.30pm in the Pavilion  
Everyone welcome!

A huge thank you to everyone who has welcomed us into the area. It was really great to see so many people at the licensing service on Monday and to start to meet people.

Although we have known for a while that we were moving, and had been trying to have a good clear out, it wasn't until the removal people started packing, that moving house actually became a reality. In life we often try to prepare ourselves for what lies ahead, but sometimes there are events we just can't prepare for and we just need to trust God, that he will be with us and guide us as we walk with him. My faith has helped to anchor me throughout the uncertainty and change of the last few years, knowing that God will be with me and that even when things are difficult or seem dark, we can trust in God.

This Spring we enter the season of Lent and then later into Easter. Lent is about clearing out, clearing out the unhelpful things in our lives, and putting in place life-giving things. What sustains us and gives us life and what drains us? How are we doing physically, emotionally and spiritually? Jesus warmly invites us to come to Him, whatever state of spiritual health we may be in. 'Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.' Being able to 'offload' to the One who holds us in love is deeply releasing, and life-giving. Knowing God's welcome, His forgiveness, the embrace of His love and acceptance is releasing.

For me, this time of preparation is needed in order to fully embrace the joy of Easter. You are very welcome to come and celebrate Easter with us, please look at the St John the Baptist church website <http://moulsfordparishchurch.blogspot.com> for service details during Holy Week. All welcome!

Rebecca Peters - Vicar

[rev.cholseyandmoulsford@gmail.com](mailto:rev.cholseyandmoulsford@gmail.com)





# St. John the Baptist, Moultsford, Mar / Apr

## March

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
		1 08:15 Lent Service 10:30 Coffee & Chat Old Vicarage 14:30 House Groups contact 651401	2 19:00 House Groups contact 077 65 440014	3 11:00 Old Vicarage Service	4	5 09:30 Common Worship (Contemporary) Fr Martyn
6 08:40 CH School Yr11-13 11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433	7 08:40 Cranford HS Yr10 09:05 Cranford HS Yr3-4	8 08:15 Lent Service; 10:30 Coffee & Chat Old Vicarage. 14:30 House Groups contact 651401	9 19:00 House Groups contact 077 65 440014	10 11:00 Morning Praise Old Vicarage	11	12 09:30 Faith Explored Jill Atkins/ John Ruston 18:30 Youth Club Laurence Hall, Cholsey
13 11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433	14 08:40 CH School Yr8	15 08:15 Lent Service; 10:30 Coffee & Chat Old Vicarage. 14:30 House Groups contact 651401	16 19:00 House Groups contact 077 65 440014	17 11:00 Morning Praise Old Vicarage 15:00 L' Team	18	19 <b>Mothering Sunday</b> 09:30 Common Worship (Contemporary) Rev'd Rebecca Peters
20 11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433	21	22 08:15 Lent Service; 10:30 Coffee & Chat Old Vicarage. 14:30 House Groups contact 651401	23 19:00 House Groups contact 077 65 440014	24 11:00 Morning Praise Old Vicarage	25	26 09:30 Common Worship (Contemporary) Rev'd Chris Stott 18:30 Youth Club Laurence Hall, Cholsey
27 11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433	28	29 08:15 Lent Service; 10:30 Coffee & Chat Old Vicarage. 14:30 House Groups contact 651401	30 19:00 House Groups contact 077 65 440014	31 11:00 Morning Praise Old Vicarage		

## April

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
				1 11:00 Communion Old Vicarage Chapel	2	3 09:30 Common Worship (Contemporary) Fr Martyn
4 11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433	5	6 08:15 Lent Service; 10:30 Coffee & Chat Old Vicarage. 14:30 House Groups contact 651401	7 19:00 House Group contact 077 65 440014	8 14:00 Hour by the Cross Rev'd Rebecca Peters	9 10:00 Church Spring Cleaning	10 09:30 <b>Easter Communion</b> CW Contemporary Rev'd Alan Gates 18:30 Youth Club Laurence Hall, Cholsey
11 <b>Bank Holiday</b>	12	13 10:30 Coffee Pavilion 14:30 House Group contact 651401 <b>Cancelled Covid</b>	14 19:00 House Group contact 077 65 440014	15 11:00 Morning Praise Old Vicarage Chapel	16	17 09:30 Common Worship (Contemporary) Rev'd Rebecca Peters
18 11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433	19	20 10:30 Coffee & Chat Old Vicarage. 14:30 House Groups contact 651401	21 19:00 House Group contact 077 65 440014	22 11:00 Morning Praise Old Vicarage Chapel	23	24 09:30 Common Worship (Contemporary) Rev'd Chris Stott 18:30 Youth Club Laurence Hall, Cholsey
25 11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433	26	27 10:30 Coffee & Chat Old Vicarage. 14:30 House Groups contact 651401	28 19:00 House Group contact 077 65 440014	29 11:00 Morning Praise Old Vicarage Chapel	30	

A short morning service is available each day in conjunction with our Partnership Parish of St. Phillip the Apostle, Huhudi, SA by Zoom, WhatsApp and e-mail. Contact Janet Knowles 651401 for further details.

# What's on in Moultsford and Surrounding Areas

## Monthly Coffee Shop

Gail Slinger



The next **Village Coffee Shop** will be on  
**Wed, 8th March 2023** in the **Pavilion** from **10:30am** to **12 noon**.



Please come and join us, bring a friend, neighbour or family member, we would love to see you all and have a chat. Please put your name on our Calendar Rota for 'Putting the Kettle on' there is always help on hand if you need it and it's a good way to meet people and have a chat.

March is about Spring, Daffodils, Snowdrops and birds singing and maybe the sun will shine too. So do come along and join us in the pavilion.

Putting the kettle on in March are Liz and Gary.

The February Coffee Shop was, once again, very well attended, we had some lovely homemade heart shaped shortbread biscuits and many other delights, very enjoyable. Thank you both Gary and Trevor.

So lovely Moultsford residents, friends and family we look forward to seeing you in March at the pavilion.

### Future Dates

- 12th April - Ursula & Friend
- 10th May - Volunteer please

### Wallingford Country Market

WALLINGFORD COUNTRY MARKET – have YOU visited us yet?



Open each Friday morning in St. Mary-le-More Church, (situated just behind the Town Hall), between 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon. Fresh delicious Home-baked Cakes and Savouries, Local Honey and Seasonal Preserves, Plants, Flowering Bulbs and Hand-crafted items available each week.

Our Easter Market will take place on Maundy Thursday, 6th April, which replaces our usual Friday market, when Easter bakes and treats will be available. Orders taken for most items we sell. New producers always welcome – if interested, please visit us one Friday morning and speak with our Market Manager, Alison Broadbridge, or phone her on 01491-681596.

WALLINGFORD COUNTRY MARKET COMMITTEE



## Cholsey Repair Café

Our repair café scheme continues to grow in capability, numbers of helpers, and the variety of projects we can attempt. Our underlying aims are to pass on repair skills, advise, and reduce the amount of waste going to our council dumps.

On the other hand, our success has led to repair sessions being very busy indeed, sometimes leading to unavoidably long waits for attention and we won't be advertising quite as widely for the foreseeable future — although if you're reading this it means that we're still happy to see you.

We regularly attract customers from communities that ought to be capable of starting repair cafés of their own and we would like to see new schemes, however small, opening throughout South Oxfordshire. If anyone reading this would like to learn how we go about operating Cholsey Repair Café (CRC), I would be delighted to share our knowledge and experiences.

The next CRC session will be held at the Cholsey Pavilion between 11.00 and 13.45 on Saturday 18th March 2023.

Ian Wheeler  
Co-ordinator

## Spinning Club - Social Craft

Moulsford craft group meets on the 2nd Thursday of the Month and would like to invite anyone who already does crafting or would like to start crafting to join us.

It is a very sociable and informal meeting and everyone is made to feel welcome.

We meet between 6.30 and 10pm.

For more information, call  
Linda Scurr on 652916.

## **GOING FORWARD BUSES**

**Including revised service from 28th November 2022**

### **133 Goring - Wallingford via Streatley & Moulsford**

Days of Operation	Until 25th November 2022				From 28th November 2022	
	Tues	Wednesdays	Thurs	Fridays	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays	
<b>Starts from</b>	<b>R/DING</b>	<b>CLEEVE</b>	<b>HENLEY</b>			
GORING, Railway Stn Forecourt	10:25	09:00	11:08	10:25	09:18	11:40
Goring Surgery/Library	10:26	09:01	11:09	10:26	09:19	11:41
Swan Hotel/Streatley Traffic Lights	10:28	09:03	11:11	10:28	09:21	11:43
Moulsford Beetle & Wedge turn	10:31	09:07	11:15	10:31	09:24	11:46
Moulsford, Old Vicarage	10:32	R	R	10:32	09:25	R
Wallingford Hospital	R	09:12	11:20	R	R	11:50
Wallingford LIDL				R	R	
WALLINGFORD Market Place	10:45	09:20	11:30	10:45	09:39	11:58
<b>Continues to</b>		<b>DIDCOT</b>		<b>WTON</b>		
<b>Starts from</b>		<b>DIDCOT</b>			<b>DIDCOT*</b>	
WALLINGFORD Market Place	12:00	10:40	13:05	12:00	11:15	14:05
Wallingford LIDL				Q	Q	Q
Wallingford Hospital	12:01	10:41	13:06	12:01	Q	Q
The Meadows	12:04	10:44	13:09	12:04	11:19	14:09
Moulsford, Old Vicarage	R	R	R	R	R	R
Moulsford Beetle & Wedge turn	12:07	10:46	13:11	12:07	11:22	14:12
Streatley Primary School	R	R	R	R	R	R
Streatley, The Coombe	R	R	R	R	R	R
Streatley Traffic Lights/Swan Hotel	12:10	10:49	R	12:10	11:25	14:15
GORING, Railway Stn Forecourt	12:20	11:00	R	12:20	11:35	14:25
<b>Continues to</b>	<b>W/FORD</b>	<b>CLEEVE</b>		<b>HENLEY</b>		

\* To or from Didcot on Mondays and Wednesdays only  
**DFL** Dorchester Flyer: to or from Dorchester village **WTON** To Watlington via Home Park, RAF Benson & Ewelme  
 Q Picks up here on request only by prior arrangement with the driver on the outward journey  
 R Sets down only at these points on request to the driver by passengers already on board at previous timing point

### **Sorry, no services on other days or on Public Holidays**

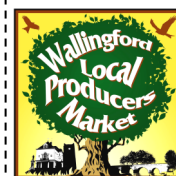
**All times subject to change at short notice. Please check our website before you travel. Times shown on Traveline or other websites may not be up to date.**

**CONCESSIONARY PASS HOLDERS**  
**Free travel on all these services**  
**except before 09:30 in West Berkshire**  
**www.goingforwardbuses.com 07484 605888**

## Cholsey Community Library

Monday to Friday      2pm to 4.30pm  
 Friday Evening      6pm to 8pm  
 Saturday Morning      9.30pm-12.30pm

## Wallingford Local Producers Market



Held every Saturday  
from 10am to 12.30pm in St Mary's Church

WLPM hosts the best of locally-produced food and crafts that are grown, harvested and made within 30 miles of Wallingford. We champion local farmers and vegetable growers, cheese-makers, bakers, and makers of honey and preserves. Every market has a range of craft stalls including textiles, jewellery, ceramics, art and photography, all hand-made by local people.

Usually our food stalls can be found outside with the craft stalls tucked away inside.

**Repair more  
in 2023!**



## CHOLSEY REPAIR CAFE

**Sat. 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

11 am to 1.45 pm at Cholsey Pavilion.

**Bring along your broken item and a team  
of volunteers will try to help you mend it**

Which volunteer skills are ✓ available\* this month?

- ✓ bicycles
- ✓ electricals
- ✓ laptops/computers
- ✓ clocks
- ✓ ultrasonic cleaning
- ✓ clothing and textiles
- ✓ specialist gluing
- ✓ tool & knife sharpening
- ✓ PAT testing
- ✓ mechanical problems

\* Subject to availability of volunteer specialists or equipment on the day.

**[www.cholseyrepaircafe.com](http://www.cholseyrepaircafe.com)**

+ Cholsey Repair Cafe on Facebook

## THE COFFEE SHOP



**WEDS 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

**10.30AM-12NOON**

If you fancy a couple of hours of chatting, relaxing and drinking coffee or tea, do join us, £1.50 donation.

Please do come along, everyone from the village is welcome. For more information call Gail Slinger on 01491 651931 or email [gailslinger2601@gmail.com](mailto:gailslinger2601@gmail.com).

### What's On at the Corn Exchange in Wallingford, Cinema/Theatre:

#### March Calendar

6th - Chess the Musical (Preview) - 7.45 - 10.30pm - Sinodun Players & Crescendo

7th - 11th - Chess the Musical - 7.45pm - 10.30pm - Sinodun Players & Crescendo

12th & 13th - The Son - 7.30pm - 9.45pm

14th & 15th - Women Talking - 7.30pm - 9.15pm

15th Matinee - Women Talking - 2.30pm - 4.15pm

16th - Roman Holiday - 7.30pm - 9.30pm

17th - 19th - What's Love Got to Do With It - 7.30pm - 9.30pm

18th Matinee - What's Love Got to Do With It - 2.30pm - 4.30pm

20th - Saint Omer (French Film) - 7.30pm - 9.45pm

21st - Till - 7.30pm - 9.45pm

22nd Matinee - Till - 2.30pm - 4.45pm

22nd - LIVE The Royal Opera: Turandot - 7.15pm - 10.15pm

23rd & 24th - The Middle Man - 7.30pm - 9.15pm

25th Matinee - Marcel the Shell with Shoes On - 2.30pm - 4.30pm

25th & 26th - The Whale - 7.30pm - 9.45pm

27th - Creature - 7.30pm - 9pm

28th - Heathers, the Musical - 7pm - 9.15pm

28th - 1st April - 3 One Act Plays - 7.45 - 10pm - Sinodun Players

29th Matinee (Foreign Film) - EO - 2.30pm - 4.30pm

29th (Foreign Film) - EO - 7.30pm - 9.30pm

30th NT LIVE - Life of Pi - 7pm - 9.45pm

## HENLEY AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

At the Henley stamp club, we have our annual auction where you will be able to obtain fantastic philatelic material. This year we can proudly announce that we have over 800 lots of excellent quality.



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

Wednesday, 8th March – Stamp Auction

Wednesday, 22nd March – Guest speakers from High Wycombe

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

Visitors and new members are very welcome.

Further details can be obtained by phoning Brian on 01491 681739 or on our website: -

[www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk](http://www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk)

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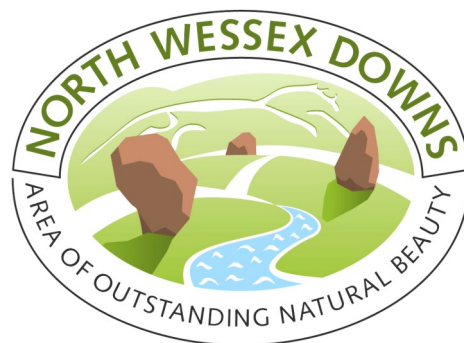
## SAVE the DATE!

### Third North Wessex Downs Walking Festival, 2nd - 11th June

The Festival will include over 25 walks taking place across the North Wessex Downs and all in celebration of this stunning landscape. The varied programme will include family-friendly, evening and weekday walks with opportunities for you to seek out wildlife, history or culture, visit a farm or simply soak up the views from the top of the downs.

Our welcoming and knowledgeable guides will bring alive some of their favourite places as you explore more of the landscape around you.

Be one of the first to hear when bookings for the festival open by signing up to receive the North Wessex Downs emailed newsletter at [northwessexdowns.org.uk/walking](http://northwessexdowns.org.uk/walking).



# Elli the Gardener



## Gardening Diary

Hello! This month I have been planting some lovely things. First I planted some shallots. They are one of my favorite vegetables, especially for cooking. I think I planted around 10-15 bulbs at the front of my bed. I didn't water them, because it is currently raining enough to keep them hydrated. I hope they grow well, because they are really yummy. I have also planted some peas. These took up around a third of my bed. In our family bed I planted some red onions on one side. My dad planted broad beans and peas. In our big shared bed, we are going to stagger planting our peas so that we don't get them all at once, because then we won't be able to eat them all at once! We also prepared some pots of soil for peppers and tomatoes, which are currently inside, warming up before we plant the seeds. I think that's all for now. Bye!

## Gardening Quiz

1. How can you tell the age of a tree?
2. How long does it take to produce asparagus the first time you plant it?
3. And here are some riddles! Why was the cucumber mad?
4. I am a seed with three letters in my name. Take away the last two and I still sound the same. What am I? (Tip, I planted some recently.)
5. Which animals can jump higher than a tree?

## Challenge

Try to start eating more local fruits and vegetables. For example, there is a market in Wallingford every Friday and Saturday which you can go to. Even if you can't get very locally sourced foods, you can always cut down on tropical fruits like mangos and bananas, as they cover many air miles and release bad greenhouse gasses.

## Fun Fact!

Did you know that small pockets of air inside cranberries cause them to bounce and float in water? Isn't that cool?

## Answers for the last quiz

1. False. Plants need different amounts of nutrients and different types of soil.
2. Dirty is obviously NOT a type of soil!
3. Spinach is annual and biennial.
4. Plants with smaller leaves need more sun, because they do not have as much area to photosynthesise on.
5. Yes, moths are pollinators- but at night!

# Local News

## Meadows Morning Market Bounces Back

Market kicks off 2023 with 25th March event after Winter break

‘Meadows Morning Market’, the business venture created by two keen market lovers, is re-emerging from its winter break on Saturday 25th March with the kick-off event once again being held at The Meadows, Cholsey. And all the regular stallholders are once again ready and eager to go!

In its relatively short life, the ‘Market’ as it is fondly known, has grown in popularity and regularly features 25-30 different stallholders marketing a wide range of products attracting upwards of 200 or so shoppers from far and wide all over Oxfordshire and Berkshire during its 9am-1.00pm Saturday morning opening hours.

Janine Wolfe, one of the two co-founders and business partners enthused: “All of us involved are really excited by the events we have planned for the coming year. We expect the business climate to ease as the months go by and more participants – customers and stallholders – to get involved. What is particularly exciting is the wide range of goods that are on offer – from foodstuffs to stationery, books to jewelry and ladies fashion to farm products – and if anything, we anticipate this list will grow even broader with each Market.”

A total of 6 markets are planned this year – 3 in the Spring with the Saturdays 25th March, 29th April, 27th May followed by 3 in the Autumn with the Saturdays 30th September, 28th October and 25th November.

Janine Wolfe continued: “We really look forward to welcoming our many friends, stallholders and customers, back to our market on 25th March. We have a lovely, friendly community which we truly value – its what makes the Market so much fun for everyone!”

## Wallingford Accessible Boat Club is recruiting

If you like boats and boating or helping others to do so, this is for You

Wallingford Accessible Boat Club (WABC) is seeking to recruit several additional part-time volunteers to enable our Wallingford-based charity to expand its operations capacity in 2023.

WABC aims to enable disabled and less mobile people from our area and adjoining districts to get out and about on our lovely River Thames on our Wheelyboat, WOW-one, a purpose built flat-bottomed craft with a drop-down bow that caters for both ambulant and wheelchair users alike.

To enable us to handle the increased numbers of passengers we anticipate this coming season we need to recruit additional volunteers. We have much to offer – a happy, fun loving environment, great company and the satisfaction of making a real difference to the lives of the disabled community.

We are looking to recruit the following part-time positions:

**Administration Officer.** This is a key role being central to our operational activities and our delivery of a high level of client service. It includes a wide range of duties – collection (from our website) of passenger booking requests, their management including allocating suitable crews referencing our Dutyman application, maintaining crew training and personal records, and passenger and crew communications. Ideally the successful candidate will have good administrative or secretarial experience including solid IT skills using standard office and email systems. Time requirement during April-September in the region of 4 hours per week rising to 6 hours in high season; 4 hours per month in the close season.

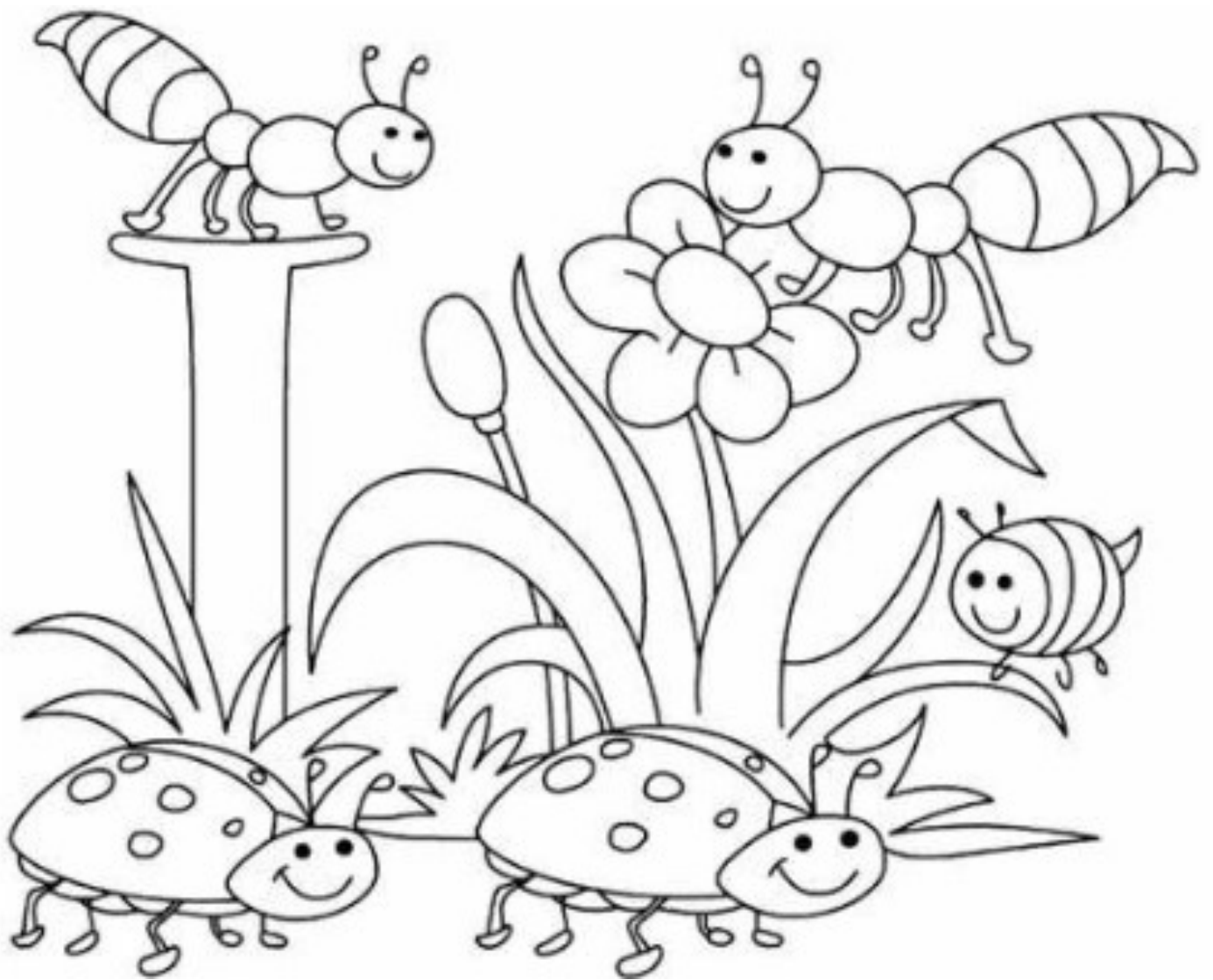


**Marketing Officer.** To support our Marketing Director with the development of marketing collateral, social media activities, website maintenance, support of our fundraising activities as well as general market communications. Time requirement approximated at 4 hours per month. The role would suit either an experienced marketer seeking a satisfying environment to apply their skills or a trainee looking to develop their experience.

**Fundraising Officer.** To support our Fundraising Director with our efforts to raise the vital funds needed to support our charitable organisation. Activities to include public cash collections, third-party events for the benefit of WABC, grant aid activities, support of our sponsors and any other fundraising initiatives that may arise from time to time. Time requirement approximated at 4 hours per month. The role would suit either an experienced fundraiser seeking a satisfying environment to apply their skills or a trainee looking to develop their experience.

If you are interested in any of the above roles or wish to support WABC in other ways, do please get in touch with John Jenkins. We are keen to move forward speedily.  
For further information visit [www.wabc.org.uk](http://www.wabc.org.uk) or contact John Jenkins at [john.jenkins@wabc.org.uk](mailto:john.jenkins@wabc.org.uk)

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## Tree Time

Hello and welcome to another edition of tree time. Yesterday, I went on a walk through a smallish forest near Woodcote. I took a few photos of some views in the forest, and today, I will be explaining how I felt, what I could hear and all that sort of stuff, when I took the photo.



Just take a look at this beautiful picture I took at the beginning of my walk. The birds were singing, and the soft crunch of autumn leaves was to be heard underfoot. Yesterday was quite a chilly day, but thanks to my jacket, all but my cheeks were kept warm. On the floor there, you may see some new growth of snowdrops. And that tree in the background is an old oak tree covered in ivy. The scent of water, rain and mud was in the air, and I felt somewhat relaxed, seeing all of this new growth, new life and new beauty.

Wow! Now it may not look like it, but this tree is huge! A giant, beautiful beech tree fills my view. It looks like the king of the forest, standing high and proud. It is surrounded by blue bells which have not yet produced flowers, and around that are the remaining leaves of that exact tree. Think of all of the animals, bugs or even fungi living in and among these twirling branches. Challenge: spot the fungus in or on the tree! Found it? Did you know that that fungus may have taken dozens of years to grow. Seeing this makes me seem very young and small.



This picture reminds me of a fairytale set in a forest a bit like this one. It's as if a tunnel or path just reveals itself to you. It seems like the forest goes on forever... And look at all of the fallen trees, now sheltering new visitors from wind or downpours. This also reminds me of my house, that too protects me. The ivy too, look how much is there! This beauty can only occur if there is a tree living and left alone for many years, and that is why I ask you people reading, to please take action, do what you can to save these natural homes for all of our future animals. Even just tell your kids not to pick ivy off the trees, because every little helps.

## Moulsford News Contributions

Planning a local event?

Wanting to share some poetry or wisdom?

Celebrating a special day or sporting/musical/... achievement?

Doing something for charity?

Share your news, plans and stories with us!

You can reach the editor, Katja Abel by email:

[moulsfordnews@moulsford-pc.org.uk](mailto:moulsfordnews@moulsford-pc.org.uk)

Deadline for April edition: **Wednesday, 22nd March 2023**

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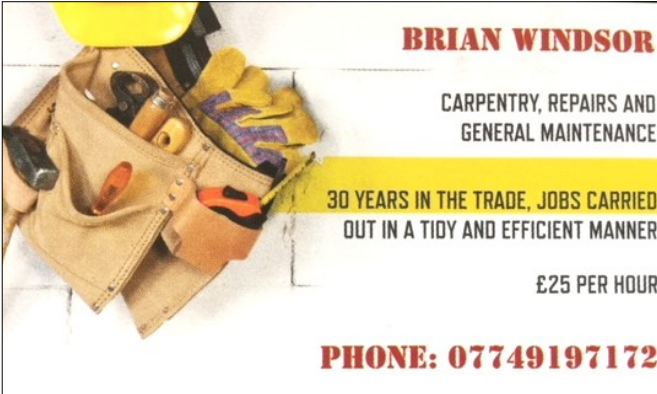
For advertising contact:  
Emma Reynolds at  
[reynolds743@btinternet.com](mailto:reynolds743@btinternet.com)

Deadline for April edition:  
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## Useful Contacts

### Moulsford Parish Council

<http://www.moulsford-pc.org.uk>

Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
Sarah Elvy (Chair)	37 Underhill	01491 651668	<a href="mailto:selvy@moulsford-pc.org.uk">selvy@moulsford-pc.org.uk</a>
Joanne Baker (Vice Chair)	2 Willow Cottages, Willow Court Lane	01491 652793	<a href="mailto:jbaker@moulsford-pc.org.uk">jbaker@moulsford-pc.org.uk</a>
Ben Partridge	22 Underhill	07828 902947	<a href="mailto:bpartridge@moulsford-pc.org.uk">bpartridge@moulsford-pc.org.uk</a>
Martin Eagle	Glebe Orchard, Glebe Close	01491 651313	<a href="mailto:meagle@moulsford-pc.org.uk">meagle@moulsford-pc.org.uk</a>
Sue Powell	Laburnham Cottage, Village Street	07786 250368	<a href="mailto:spowell@moulsford-pc.org.uk">spowell@moulsford-pc.org.uk</a>
Sinead Archer (Parish Clerk)		07879 423554	<a href="mailto:parishclerk@moulsford-pc.org.uk">parishclerk@moulsford-pc.org.uk</a>

Please report any traffic and parking issues experienced to: [trafficandparking@moulsford-pc.org.uk](mailto:trafficandparking@moulsford-pc.org.uk)

### South Oxfordshire District Councillors

Anne-Marie Simpson	Mallards, Moulsford, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 9HR	01491 651298	<a href="mailto:Anne-Marie.Simpson@southoxon.gov.uk">Anne-Marie.Simpson@southoxon.gov.uk</a>
Jane Murphy	Corner Cottage, High Street, South Moreton, Didcot, OX11 9AD	07970 932054	<a href="mailto:jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk">jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk</a>

### Oxfordshire County Councillor

Felix Bloomfield	The Views, Ewelme, OX10 6HF	07912 875199	<a href="mailto:felix.bloomfield@oxfordshire.gov.uk">felix.bloomfield@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a>
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## Moulsford Pavilion Hire Rates

The Pavilion is the ideal place to hire for your event and can accommodate a range of different activities.

Standard hire rates effective from 1st April:

Discounted rates are available for regular weekday evening bookings (Monday-Thursday).

Special rates apply to weddings.

The full list of rates can be obtained from the Bookings Secretary or can be seen on the Pavilion notice board.

Hire Fees	Mon-Fri: Hourly fee up to 6pm	Mon-Fri: Hourly fee after 6pm	Weekend: Hourly fee Anytime
Village	£14	£16	£16
Non-residents/ Commercial	£17	£22	£22

To book call Karen Gilmore, Pavilion Bookings Secretary 07707 068151 or email [moulsfordbookings@gmail.com](mailto:moulsfordbookings@gmail.com)

## Dates for the Diary

Date	Event	Location
8th March	10:30 Coffee Shop	Moulsford Pavilion
17th March	19:30 NPS Village Planning Meeting	Moulsford Pavilion
24th March	19:30 Quiz Night	Moulsford Pavilion
9th April	10:30 Easter Egg Hunt	Moulsford Pavilion
12th April	10:30 Coffee Shop	Moulsford Pavilion
21st April	18:30 First Friday Social (Bangers and Bubbles)	Moulsford Pavilion
7th May	King's Coronation and Celebration	Moulsford Pavilion
10th May	10:30 Coffee Shop	Moulsford Pavilion
16th June	TBC - Thames Boat Trip	TBC