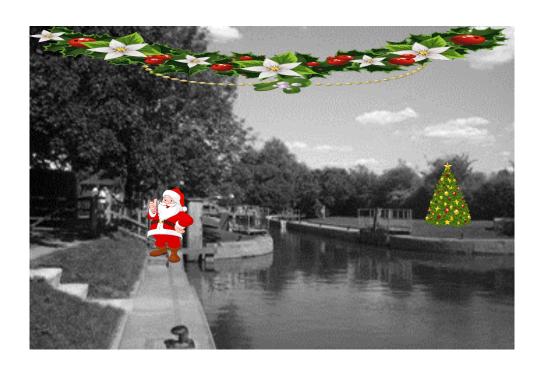
The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter

December 2018/January 2019



For your diary:

Sun December 2nd: 11:00 - Parish Communion, St Paul's

Sun December 9th: 16:00 – Messy Church "Decorate the Christmas Tree" with nibbles and drinks for grown-ups too!

Mon December 10th: 19.30 - Parish Council Meeting, Culham School

Sat December 15th: 16:00 - rehearsal for children's choir (for Carol Service), St Paul's

Sun December 16th: 16:30 – Village Carol Service (with Culham children's choir!), St Paul's

Sun December 23rd: 17:30 – Carols around Culham, meet at St Paul's for mince pies and mulled wine. Finish at Colin Franklin's house

Tue December 25th: 10:00 - Christmas Day Service, St Paul's

Church service times in the Bridge Group

Culham

Sun December 2nd 11:00 Parish Communion

Sun December 9th 16:00 Messy Church (Tree decorating)

Sun December 16th 16:30 Carol Service

Tue December 25th 10:00 Christmas Day Service Sun January 6th 11:00 Parish Communion Sun January 13th 16:00 Messy Church Sun January 20th 16:00 Parish Communion

Clifton Hampden and Burcot

Sun December 2nd 08:00 Holy Communion Sun December 9th 10:30 Parish Eucharist Sun December 23rd 17:00 Carol Service

Mon December 24th 23:30 Midnight Service for Christmas

08:00 Holy Communion Sun January 6th Sun January 13th 10:30 Parish Eucharist Sun January 20th 10:30 Parish Eucharist Sun January 27th 10:30 Messy Church

Long Wittenham and Little Wittenham:

Sun December 2nd Lona W 09:30 Family Service, crafts and breakfast

Sun December 9th Long W 09:30 Parish Eucharist

Little W Sun December 16th 08:30 BCP Holy Communion

Sun December 23rd Long W 09:30 Parish Eucharist Mon December 24th Long W 16:30 Carol Service Mon December 24th 18:00 Carol Service Little W

Tue December 25th Long W 09:30 Christmas Parish Eucharist

09:30 Family Service, crafts and breakfast Sun January 6th Long W

Sun January 13th Long W 09:30 Parish Eucharist 08:30 Holy Communion Little W Sun January 20th Sun January 27th Long W 09:30 Parish Eucharist

Berinsfield

Sun December 30th 11.00 Team Service

Talking Point – Revd Michael Lakey

When I am not reading, or teaching, or doing any of the other various tasks that shape my life, I like to browse YouTube for interesting videos and documentaries. One video I saw recently showed the moment at which the guns of World War I went silent. Of course, sound technology was then in its infancy, so there was no way in which we could actually hear the guns cease. Rather, reconnaissance units in those days used a technology called 'sound ranging', which is a little like the technique used to record earthquakes in the form

of seismographs, and some of this footage is available in the form of photographic film, in which the vibrations of all the heavy artillery can be seen as shaky lines—until, that is, the moment at which they ceased to fire, the Armistice came into effect, and the lines became perfectly still. And it is then, in the silence afterwards, that we discover what the noise and the activity might have meant.

If we had a 'sound range' of our life in the weeks leading up to Christmas, I wonder what it would look like. For me, there would be the noise and hassle of Christmas shopping, compensated for by the lights, the smells and the pleasure of spiced coffee and gingerbread on the way back to the car. There would be hopeful conversations with children who assure me that they have been 'very good' (or at least 'not as naughty as they might have been'). There would be planning, and leading, carol services, Advent assemblies, and dressing Christmas trees at home and in Church. There would be





Posada sets, in which models of Mary and Joseph make their way through villages or schools in the hope of arriving, intact, at a crib or stable at just the right time. There would be food shopping, card shopping, wrapping paper shopping. There would be wreath hanging, light hanging, tinsel hanging. Then, amidst carols and joy, the models of Mary and Joseph would arrive at the crib on Christmas Eve. There would be Midnight Mass, morning communion, with children dressed as shepherds, visiting royalty or sheep, and then dinner, the Queen (if I am lucky) and . . . [yawn!] . . . a nap! But, in the late afternoon, in relative quiet over a sandwich of leftovers, when the line of life has become perfectly still, there is the question of what all the noise and activity might have meant.

The question of what Christmas might mean is one that is posed to all of us. I suspect that your preparations are as fun, and as frenetic, as mine. And I suspect, unless you are fortunate enough to be under 12, that you arrive on the far side of Christmas lunch as tired and as ready for a nap as me. For Christians, both the preparations and the quiet afterwards are part of the meaning. God enters our world of noise, whether of commerce or of warfare, in order that we might, through knowing His Son, enter into His peace and His calm. This Advent and Christmas, why don't you join us in any of the Bridge Group or Dorchester Team churches as we wait for the coming of the Prince of Peace. God bless you with peace this Christmas!

Events in the Abbey, Dorchester

<u>Sat 1 st December 7.30pm</u> "A Plea for Peace" Music to include Vaughan Williams - Dona Nobis, Pacem, Fauré – Requiem and Elgar - Serenade for Strings. Tickets from <u>www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk</u>

Thursday 6th December 8.00pm HFT's "The Coming of Christmas" The beautiful Abbey, bathed in the glow of more than 1,000 tealights, creates a truly magical backdrop for this much-loved Christmas celebration. Sit back and enjoy some superb festive music from The Choir of Magdalen College Oxford – conducted by Mark Williams – and readings performed by actress Juliet Stevenson, CBE* and actor Michael Pennington*. Mulled wine and mince pies are included in the ticket price, and will be served in the Abbey after the concert. Juliet Stevenson is best known for her leading role in 1991 film Truly, Madly, Deeply and her roles in Emma, Bend It Like Beckham and Mona Lisa Smile. Recent and upcoming theatre appearances include Mary Stuart, Hamlet and Wings. Michael Pennington has played most of the major Shakespeare roles for the RSC and for his own English Shakespeare Company. His TV and film credits include Star Wars: Return of the Jedi, State of Play and Waking the Dead. Ticket information available from www.hft.org.uk

<u>Sat 8th December 7.30pm</u> OSJ Concert Carols at Dorchester in Association with Clear Sky *A programme of popular carols*

OSJ Ashmolean Voices, John Lubbock conductor with guests Shillingford & Warborough choir conducted by Christine Cairns.

Tickets available via www.osj.org.uk. To support Clear Sky, buy the 'Clear Sky' ticket – all income from this ticket, which includes an extra £2 donation, going to Clear Sky.

<u>Sat 15th December 7.30pm</u> OSJ Handel's Messiah in the exciting new orchestration for wind by John Lubbock: OSJ Voices, Orchestra of St John's with John Lubbock conductor and Soloists Hannah Davey, Charlotte Tetley mezzo, John Findon tenor, William Thomas bass. Tickets available from www.osj.org.uk

<u>Sat 31st December 7.00pm</u> OSJ Wonderful waltzes and polkas mostly by Johann Strauss Junior, plus well-known songs and arias from Strauss and Lehar. Including final scene, act I of La Boheme Featuring: Orchestra of St John's with John Lubbock (conductor), Christopher Turner (tenor), and Hannah Davey (mezzo soprano). Tickets available from www.osj.org.uk

Village News

Village website: www.culhamvillage.org.uk



December & Christmas events at St Pauls

2nd 11am Parish Communion

5th wreath making

ladies of Culham

9th 4pm Messy Church "Getting ready for Christmas"

All Children welcome to come and decorate the Christmas tree and Nativity. Wine and nibbles supplied for parents.

16th **4.30pm Village Carol Service**Carols & Choir with readings from young villagers. Mince pies and mulled wine

23rd 5.30pm Carols around Culham

Meet at St Pauls for mince pies and
mulled wine and finish at Colin Franklin's

25th 10am Christmas Day Service

Email: stpaulsculham@gmail.com



st pauls and culham village

Village Carol Service

Carols and readings for Christmas – this year (as well as the adult choir) we will enjoy some carols from a Culham Village children's choir! All village children who would like to take part are welcome. We have invited quite a number of families directly but we know we haven't managed to get to everyone! If your children would like to join in there will be a 2nd rehearsal on Saturday 15th December at 4pm in the Church. Please do come along!

For more information call Anne/Andrew on 01235 533011 or text 07826360402 or email churchillstone27@gmail.com

Green Recycling Bins - The Railway Inn



Green Recycling bins are situated at the end of The Railway Inn Car Park. This is to raise funds for Children's Air Ambulance. There is also a green bin for media. All items should be bagged.



Culham Parish Council (CPC) Notes November 2018

(The reports from Lorraine Lindsay-Gale, our County Councillor, and that from Sue Lawson, District Councillor were not available at time of going to press)

The path between the Stunning Arch stone bridge and the hydro scheme has been reinstated by flattening the outer edge of the ploughed field.

An amount of £2500 has been applied for from our County Councillor's' budget to undertake a traffic speed survey on the A415. Also, CPC will apply for a salt-bin to be placed on the Green.

The church re-ordering committee is continuing with the plans and fund raising is now the main area of focus.

CPC is considering a donation of up to £1000 towards the Expressway Action Group funds for legal work etc. This is connected with the group's consultation work on the Expressway route around Oxford.

The pond was partly cleared of reeds on 28 October. CPC would like to thank April and Graeme Jones, and Bob Cragg for their help on the day.

The Abingdon Town football club site has been cleared of the car sales site and the café.

On 6 December the trees on the Green and in the recreation ground will be assessed by an Arboriculturalist.

Plans for next year's grass cutting around the village are in hand with a more robust methodology being prepared.

A quote for replacement play equipment on the recreation ground has been obtained and a second quote is awaited.

The CPC website is awaiting confirmation of the use of a .gov domain name.

The bench at the Manor Farm Barns was recently damaged by vehicular contact and has been temporarily removed. CPC would like to thank Glenn Bartley for undertaking the repair work.

Next meeting Monday 10th December 2018 at 19:30 at the school.

As ever all villagers are welcome to attend - please come along even if you have no specific items to present/discuss.

Free swimming for a month for residents with diabetes in southern Oxfordshire

Residents of southern Oxfordshire who have diabetes can sign up for a month's FREE swimming thanks to a special offer from South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse District Councils.

This month's offer is to coincide with World Diabetes Day on 14 November.

Would-be swimmers will need to register for the offer by emailing participation@southandvale.gov.uk or by calling 01235 422219 by 30 November.

(Editor's note – if you are reading this after 30 Nov and are interested it may be worth calling anyway and explaining that the notice was only issued to the parish council on 9 Nov!)

Once they have received confirmation, they can visit the participating leisure centres throughout November to swim as many times as they like. The month-long swim deal will start from the date of the first swim.

The scheme is part of the district councils' GO Active Get Heathy county-wide programme to support people with diabetes into physical activity.

Physical activity is an important part of a treatment plan, especially for people with type 2 diabetes. Not only does exercise affect the heart health and lower blood glucose levels, but it can also improve sleep quality. The programme has support from Active Oxfordshire and is funded by the Oxfordshire Clinical

Commissioning group.

The participating centres are:

- Abbev Sports Centre, Berinsfield
- Didcot Wave
- Faringdon Leisure Centre
- Henley leisure Centre
- Thame Leisure Centre
- Wantage Leisure Centre
- White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre, Abingdon

Cllr Lynn Lloyd, Cabinet Member for Leisure at South Oxfordshire District Council, said: "Since launching ear1ier this year GO Active Get Healthy has helped hundreds of people with diabetes across the districts get more active."

Cllr Alice Badcock, Cabinet Member for Leisure at Vale of White Horse District Council, said: "swimming is fun and a great way to get active and keep healthy. We aim to help people in our area with diabetes and this way they can swim as many times as they want during the month and hopefully get into the swimming habit."

Other News







Wednesday 12th December 7.00 for 7.30pm

at The Seven Stars Pub Marsh Baldon OX44 9LL

Christmas is here and we're celebrating at the Seven Stars. Come and join us for a meal and some carols. You'll need to reserve a place, choose your dishes from the menu and pay in advance (£21.95/£26.95 per person, for two/three courses). You can see the menu at https://www.sevenstarsonthegreen.co.uk/christmas-menu/

RSVP by 30th November to: Sara Hunnings: sarah.hunnings@btinternet.com

> Wednesday 9th January 2019 7.30pm Marsh Baldon village hall

Our first meeting of the new year will be back in the village hall.

SAVE THE DATE Wednesday 13th February 2019

A special Filling Station meeting in a marquee at the village hall with guest speakers Mary Berry and Rico Tice (All Souls, Langham Place).

If you are interested you can find out more at http://thefillingstation.org.uk, Or from Tom Hunnings: tomhunnings@hotmail.com
Or Catherine Mason: catherinevmason@gmail.com





All it takes is one distraction

Did you know that 1 in 3 people rescued from house fires in Oxfordshire are rescued from cooking fires? Or that distraction is the main cause of cooking fires?

It's easy to get distracted - the phone rings, someone's at the door or a TV show catches your attention. If you need to leave your cooking, even for a couple of minutes:

- turn down the heat
- set the timer
- or ask someone to watch it for you

Or you could find that Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service firefighters join you for dinner!

Find out more at: www.365alive.co.uk/cooking



Oxfordshire Shared Lives Scheme

Do you have a spare room in your house?

Share your home and make a difference!

Do you feel that you could offer support to someone in order to make a difference to their life? If so, you could be just the person we are looking for!!

The Oxfordshire Shared Lives Scheme supports carers to provide paid care and support in their own home to vulnerable adults.

People who use the service need practical and emotional support in order to live their lives more fully and independently and feel part of a family household. They may have a learning disability, physical disability or mental health need or they could be an older person or someone with dementia.

Here in Oxfordshire we are keen to recruit people from all walks of life who feel they can offer this type of paid support in their own home. It could be anything from occasional short breaks or day time support through to a longer term, full time arrangement. The support that our carers give makes a huge difference to the lives of people using the service, often enabling them to experience new opportunities and reach new goals.

No matter what type of arrangement our carers provide, they all receive on-going support and training from a team of qualified social workers to ensure delivery of high quality, person centred care. They could also be paid up to just over £400 per week for each person they support.

There are also regular opportunities to meet up with other carers and people who use the service at social and information events so a wider support network is also available.

If you have a spare room to offer and would like to play a key part in making a positive difference to someone's life, then we really want to hear from you!

Call the Oxfordshire Shared Lives Scheme on **01865 897971** or visit our website www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sharedlives.

We are also holding a drop-in session for people to come and find out more about the service by chatting to other carers, social workers from the Shared Lives Team and people using the service. This will be held on Thursday 6th December between 1.00 pm and 2.30 pm at Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 3JD. We look forward to meeting you!!



Christmas gifts for anyone wild about wildlife

SPECIES Wildlife conservation charity People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) has released its 2018 Christmas catalogue, offering a range of unique gifts perfect for anyone who loves wildlife. From a new hedgehog box full of "hedgehoggy" goodies to stylish woodland-inspired scarves, the catalogue showcases several stocking-filler ideas as well as larger gifts. Most importantly, 100% of the profits made will go directly to help wildlife in need, both in the UK and overseas.

PTES' annual catalogue has gifts to suit all interests, from improving your own habitat with beautifully designed cushions and tea towels, to supporting conservation projects across the world. There are gifts for all budgets too, from wooden keyrings for £4.50 to bespoke and original watercolour wildlife illustrations priced at £45. So, whether you want to help hedgehogs, protect pine martens or support snow leopards, there is something for everyone.

New items for 2018 include:

- Love Hedgehogs Box (£25): This box contains five "hedgehoggy" items, including a notepad, keyring and seedball mix, plus all proceeds go to help hedgehogs the perfect present for any hedgehog lover.
- 'Woodlanders' scarf and umbrella (£20, £25): These two items both feature cute woodland animal illustrations, including hedgehogs, foxes and owls. Whether you're looking to brighten up a rainy day or your outfit, these items are for you.
- Layla Amber earrings and brooches (£8, £10): Designed and handmade by Suffolk-based artist Layla Amber, the intricate pieces of wooden jewellery on offer include delicate hare, hedgehog or squirrel earrings (with silver plated earring posts) and laser-cut and varnished brooches.
- Shopping list pad (£4 each): These new magnetic notepads are available in three different designs a hedgehog, a red squirrel or an orangutan ideal for your shopping or 'things to do' list.

If you're unsure of what to buy someone who already has 'everything', PTES also offers 'Gifts for Nature' - £20 donations whereby the recipient simply receives an illustrated card explaining how their donation is helping a range of endangered species. This year's gift options include: 'Water vole SOS', 'Making room for hedgehogs', 'Leaping into action for snow leopards' and 'Wild about cider'.

The full range of gifts can be viewed and purchased online at www.ptes.org/shop.



The Pied Piper
Saturday 8 Dec 2018 to Sunday 30 Dec 2018

Can you hear that strange music in the wind? The Piper's calling... An enchanting new musical about playing to your own tune. Prices: £15, Conc £13.50, Family Ticket £50, Members discount 20%





Stephen K. Amos: Bouquets and Brickbats
Thursday 17 Jan 2019 8:00pm

Highly acclaimed stand-up comedian Stephen K Amos is coming to Didcot with his brand new tour, Bouquets and Brickbats.

Prices: £17.50 Age guidance: 16+

www.cornerstone-arts.org Box Office: 01235 515144 25 Station Road, Didcot, OX11 7NE

SPECIAL EVENT

Music At The Unicorn's next concert at the beautiful Unicorn Theatre in Abingdon-on-Thames is onThursday 6th Dec and stars five brilliant musicians —





FANTASTIC LIVE MUSIC IN THE BEAUTIFUL UNICORN THEATRE

THE DYLAN PROJECT

Take four of Britain's most talented folk-rock musicians and a unique singer, add the repertoire of a genius, and you've got the recipe for a dream band. The musicians in question are PJ Wright (slide and electric guitars, pedal steel) Gerry Conway (drums and percussion) Phil Bond (keys) Dave Pegg (bass) and singer Steve Gibbons. As 'The Dylan Project', they present an exhilarating tribute to the work of arguably the greatest post-war songwriter in the English language.



The Dylan Project's repertoire spans the whole of Dylan's oeuvre – everything from Highway 61 to Mississippi – and new material is frequently brought into the set list. Whether you are a diehard Dylan fan or just enjoy great songs performed with flair and brio, The Dylan Project will take your breath away.

There is so much to relish in the Dylan Project. For a start there's the laconic and charismatic Steve Gibbons, sounding uncannily like Dylan while retaining his own inimitable vocal style. As well as Steve's homage to Dylan himself, the Project's musicians are equally fine interpreters of

the virtuosity of The Band. There is PJ Wright's scintillating slide and haunting pedal steel; Dave Pegg bringing his beautifully subtle and powerful bass lines, and Gerry Conway holding the whole groove with a tour de force on drums and percussion and then there's the fine, fine piano, organ and accordion work from Phil Bond.

But The Dylan Project is more than a studio ensemble. Since its inception, the band has been entertaining audiences with an electrifying stage show. As well as touring UK arts centres, concert halls and theatres, The Dylan Project has played in Europe and appeared at festivals large and small – including Cropredy of course.

For more information: www.dylanproject.co.uk

"Five brilliant musicians picking their favourite songs from one of the best songwriters in the world". – Green Man Review

Doors: 7pm | Music: 7:30pm

Tickets: £20 – MOSTLY BOOKS, 36 Stert Street, Abingdon OX14 3JP (Cash only)

or www.musicattheunicorn.org.uk

Unicorn Theatre, Checker Walk, Abingdon



Gardens Trusts reveals new discoveries about landscape gardener Humphry Repton in bicentenary year

In a culmination of years of research, the Gardens Trusts have shed new light on the work of historic landscape gardener Humphry Repton at a symposium at the Garden Museum in November 2018. The new research was completed by hundreds of volunteers from County and Country Gardens Trusts across the UK as part of the celebrations in the bicentenary year of Repton's death.

In celebrating this important figure, who wanted to fill the gap left by the death of Capability Brown in 1783, the Gardens Trust encouraged volunteers from over 30 counties, and in Wales and Scotland, to present their longstanding research of the special Red Books and other documents. This work was undertaken to grow knowledge of the impressive Humphry Repton, who bridged the style between 18th century landscape design and the <u>Gardenesque</u> movement of the early Victorian years.

The way Repton presented his landscape designs was a key part of his success. He produced 'Red Books' or folios of his plans, drawings, maps and a description of the improvements he proposed to make, so-called by Repton due to the distinctive red leather bindings. They famously include watercolour paintings with overlays showing 'before' and 'after' views of the estate using an inventive cut-out flap. While some survive, others are lost and yet people are still discovering new documents such as Repton's account books, drawings and notes, which reveal broader influence on the English landscape. The research also reveals much about the man himself, such as his interest in the arts as a designer, painter, actor and musician, which led to him cultivating influential relationships in his professional and personal life and showed his desire to be part of the elite artistic circle.

In celebration of their discoveries, the Garden Museum, Lambeth Palace Road, London is staging an exhibition called "Repton Revealed" running until the 3 February 2019 showcasing 24 Red Books. This exhibition reunites the largest number of Red Books in one place in 25 years and demonstrates some of the new findings including newly discovered Repton sites and some of Repton's lesser known design theories.

Red books, reports or drawings by Repton have been found relating to Great Tew, Magdalen College and Sarsden House in Oxfordshire; Hanslope Park, Shardeloes and Stoke Park in Buckinghamshire.and Holme Park, Purley and Sonning Hill in Berkshire.

In addition to other initiatives linked to the bicentenary celebrations, the County Gardens Trusts have produced books about the research that has been undertaken and these are listed at:http://thegardenstrust.org/research/cqt-publications/

Also, funded by a £99,500 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Gardens Trust has been able to pilot activities that are designed to welcome wider local communities to Repton landscapes, with a long-term view to nurturing a new wave of volunteers and supporters for these heritage assets. The activities have already seen an increase of people inspired to get involved with their own local landscape, enabled by sharing skills, guidance materials and training workshops with other sites and groups so that they too can offer similar local community events in the future.

For more information about Repton and this year's celebrations, visit www.humphryrepton.org, or follow @humphryrepton, #humphryrepton, #sharingrepton, or fb.com/humphryrepton

Christmas Party at the Railway Inn - Pauline Davidson

I would like to invite senior citizens of Culham, aged 65+, to The Railway Inn on **Saturday 1st December 2018** for a Christmas Party, from **2 to 5.30pm**. This offer is limited to 30 people who must be Culham residents. It will include:

- Free 4 Course Turkey Meal and refreshments.
- Entertainment, Bingo and Raffle

If you want to come, please fill in and return the tear-off reply slip below. Please note that we need to know if you have any special requirements, such as :-

do you need to be picked up? will you be in a wheelchair? are you on a special diet?



				——То
Pauling Davidson, The Pailway Inn	Culham	OV14 2RT (tol	E29046)	. •

Pauline Davidson	, The Railway	y Inn, Culham	, OX14 3BT ((tel. 528046)
------------------	---------------	---------------	--------------	---------------

I would like to come to	the Senior Citizens	' Christmas Part	y at The Railway	Inn on Saturday	1st December
2018.			•	_	

Name
Address
Telephone number
Special needs – please CROSS OUT if NOT needed
Please could someone give me a lift? I will be in a wheelchair. I am on a special diet – i.e



The Mouthpiece

Please note that any opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the editors. We accept contributions and advertisements in good faith and cannot be responsible for errors therein.

Contributions to the November issue of the Mouthpiece by **October 15**th, please, to: generalmouthpiece@gmail.com

Anne Churchill Stone	21 High Street Culham	Tel 01235 533011
Rob Gibbs	c/o 32 High Street, Culham	

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stuart.morris@ukaea.uk

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D.Patel Tel: 01235 848227



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WHO IS WHO IN CULHAM?

CULHAM PARISH COUNCIL			
Sam Casey-Rerhaye	(Chair)	3 The Burycroft, Culham	01235 799489
Andrew Steele		27 High Street, Culham	01235 534910
John Thomas		40 High Street, Culham	01235 521678
Gordon Gibbs		32 High Street, Culham	01235 523679
Adrian Morris		5, Manor Farm Barns, Culham	
CLERK TO PARISH COUNCI	Ĺ		
Lucy Dalby	culhampc@googlemail.com	76 Evenlode Drive, Didcot OX11 7XQ	01235 817464
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR			
Sue Lawson	sue.lawson@southoxon.gov.uk		07899 963236
COUNTY COUNCILLOR			
Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	lorraine.lindsay- gale@oxfordshire.gov.uk	Nut Tree Cottage, The Green South, Warborough OX10 7DR	01865 858976
ST PAUL'S CHURCH			
Associate Team Vicar:	Revd. Michael Lakey		07586 323325
Ordained Local Minister	Revd. David Haylett	familyhaylett@yahoo.com	01865 407382
Hon. Treasurer:	Andrew Churchill Stone	churchillstone27@gmail.com 21 High Street, Culham	01235 533011
Churchwarden:	Roy Epps	14 The Glebe, Culham	01235 537525
Hon. Secretary:	Charles Reichardt	Fair Green, Henley Rd, Culham	01235 520534
FRIENDS OF ST PAUL'S CHU	JRCH		
Chairman:	Philip Owen	6 The Green, Culham	01235 555223
CULHAM PAROCHIAL SCHO	OOL (Thames Bridge C of E Federation)		
Head Teacher:	Mrs Lisa Horton	The School, High Street, Culham	01235 521766
Chair of Governors:	Debbie Croft	c/o Clifton Hampden School	01865 407700
LADIES OF CULHAM (LOC)			
Mary Rickford	mary@therickfords.com	The Clock House, Culham	01235 528052
ST PAUL'S AND CULHAM V	ILLAGE REORDERING COMMITTEE		
Philip Owen	stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com	6 The Green, Culham	01235 555223
CULHAM POOR ALLOTMEN	NTS TRUST		
Gordon Gibbs	grgibbs@btinternet.com	32 High Street, Culham	01235 523679
POLICE	- 0.00.57		_
Neighbourhood Policing	Team	Non-emergency Phone Number	101
THE MOUTHPIECE	generalmouthpiece@gmail.com		
Editors:	Anne Churchill Stone	21 High Street, Culham	01235 533011
	Rob Gibbs	c/o 32 High Street, Culham	
Advertising Manager:	Sarah Cater	4 High Street, Culham	07503 511264
	advertmouthpiece@gmail.com		
Distribution:	Maggie Graham	8 Tollgate Road, Culham	01235 525901
	maggieg30@gmail.com		