

# The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter

March 2019



## For your diary:

**Sat March 2nd:** 19:30 - Quiz Night, Schumann Hall, Europa School

**Sun March 3rd:** 11:00 – Parish Communion, St Paul's

**Sun March 10th:** 16:00 – Messy Church, St Paul's

**Mon March 11th:** 19.30 - Parish Council Meeting, Culham School

**Sun March 17th:** 16:00 – Parish Communion, St Paul's

**Thurs March 28th:** 14:30 – School Service for Mother's Day *to be confirmed*, St Paul's

# Church service times in the Bridge Group



## Culham

Sun March 3rd	11:00 Parish Communion & Baptism
Sun March 10th	16:00 Messy Church
Sun March 17th	16:00 Parish Communion

## Clifton Hampden and Burcot

Sun March 3rd	08:00 Holy Communion
Sun March 10th	10:30 Parish Eucharist
Sun March 17 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 Parish Eucharist
Thu March 21st	10:30 Parish Eucharist
Sun March 24th	10:30 Family-Friendly Communion
Sun March 31st	10:30 Mothering Sunday Service

## Long Wittenham and Little Wittenham

Sun March 3rd	Long W	09:30 Family Service, crafts and breakfast
Sun March 10th	Long W	09:30 Parish Eucharist
Sun March 17th	Little W	08:30 BCP Holy Communion
Sun March 24th	Long W	09:30 Parish Eucharist
Sun March 31st	Long W	09:30 Mothering Sunday Service

## Talking Point – Canon Sue Booy



‘Breaking up is hard to do...’ whether you hear these words in the voice of Neil Sedaka or The Carpenters – or even if you don’t recognise either the artists or the song – these words seem only too apt for the United Kingdom at the moment. Paul Simon’s ‘Fifty ways to leave your lover’ also has a rather dark resonance with its words ‘I wish there was something I could do to make you smile again...’

Whatever your view on the desirability of Brexit you are almost certainly frustrated and possibly despairing, not only with the process but with the sense of uncertainty. Undoing something is almost always more difficult and frustrating than setting something up and, although damaging a relationship is something that can happen really quickly through simple negligence or a careless word or action, mending relationships is much more difficult.

This isn’t only true of political and international relationships. Although it would be true to say that ‘the bigger the canvas the greater the fallout’, the pain and difficulty when relationships fail within families, friends and communities is very similar to that in headline hitting rows and separations. The truth is that cracks appear in relationships long before the big break up. In Europe we might cite failure to join the common currency, perceptions of a ‘special status’ for the UK and feelings that one partner is expected to contribute too much / is not contributing as cracks that have been apparent in European relationships in the past. Look at these in a more general way and all of them apply to smaller situations.

Often cracks appear in the fabric of a family or community over unequal contributions – not necessarily financial but in time, in the undertaking of particular chores or the willingness to take others’ needs into account. ‘It’s not fair’ may be equated with the cry of a child but a sense of unfairness or injustice (real or imagined) is a common cause of fallings out at all levels.

How do we manage to curb our inner child from grumbling ‘It’s not fair’ and begin to heal the cracks that cause a long-term relationship failure and breakdown? The first step is to recognise the childish cry honestly within the complex complaints we make, the second is to ‘walk in the shoes’ of the other person trying to see why they feel that you are ‘not being fair’ and the third is to step into the ‘no man’s land’ of negotiation with as much honesty as we can muster and try to set relationships right.

During March the season of Lent begins and the days of Lent – celebrated to remember Jesus’ time in the Wilderness – represent a no man’s land in terms of our relationship with God. However that relationship is experienced for you, my guess is that, like me, there are always cracks appearing. Lent is an opportunity to recognise where those cracks might be and to step into the no man’s land where reconciliation and renewal are to be found.

## Your Funeral in your village taken by your vicar – Revd Michael Lakey

You may have come across the Citizens Advice notice in some local magazines and newsletters about organising a funeral. It mentions all kinds of funeral options and advises shopping around amongst Funeral Directors – certainly something to recommend! As the advert doesn't tell you anything about Church funerals, I thought I would write something here. The cost of a funeral in Church (often 'bundled up' with other costs when you go to an Undertaker) is £225. This includes the time of the vicar beforehand to help you plan the service you want, and to lead that service, as well as the use of the building. In addition, a church organist is about £75.

So, if you would like your village vicar to say a prayer for you and the loved one you are remembering, ask your funeral director or give me a call – I am always happy to take services at the Crematorium and in the council run chapels at public cemeteries as well as in the Churches of the Bridge Group. If you want to talk about a funeral before it's actually needed, please feel free to contact me. I'd be only too happy to talk this through with you and leave a provisional order of service on file (and there is no charge for this!!).

Please don't let cost put you off having a church service or your vicar at a funeral – independent funeral officiates charge varying rates but honestly much of the cost of the funeral is for cars, caskets and crematoria. In cases of real financial hardship please talk to me.

God bless!

## Talking it through

"Talking it Through" is a series of occasional supper meetings with an opportunity to meet and talk about those issues which are often quite sharp for us challenging faith in ourselves and in others. The kind of issues that make us ask the question 'So where is God in all this' or 'God? Surely not!'

The first two of these meetings will take place in Lent addressing the subjects 'living with a life changing diagnosis' (March 11<sup>th</sup>) and Living with Dementia (April 8<sup>th</sup>).

We will meet at Dorchester Rectory for a simple supper followed by a short introduction from someone with experience of the issues and an opportunity to question, discuss and (if you wish) share your own experiences.

If you would like to join me do get in touch with me ([admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk); 01865 340007). If there is a subject you would like to address please do get in touch to make a suggestion. I plan for this to be an 'occasional' series of suppers and conversations starting in Lent!

## Events in the Abbey, Dorchester

**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> March 7.30pm** Corona Strings Best of Britain

Two great classics of British music for strings, Ralph Vaughan Williams's inspired Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis along with Edward Elgar's magnificent Introduction and Allegro, form the backbone of this programme. We give a rare performance of the magnificent Sea Sketches by Welsh composer Grace Williams and Gerald Finzi's beautiful Eclogue with piano soloist Anita d'Attellis and the programme is completed with Elgar's intensely moving Elegy and Peter Warlock's own arrangement of his highly popular Capriol Suite of 1928. Tickets from [www.ticketsoxford.com](http://www.ticketsoxford.com)

**Tues March 5<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm** University of South Dakota chamber choir

Chamber Singers is the premiere vocal ensemble at the University of South Dakota. It is comprised of graduate and undergraduate students selected through audition from the entire university student body. Known to critics for "creating a choral concert of stunning beauty and musical understanding," its repertoire, which is primarily a cappella, includes music from the Renaissance to the present in a wide variety of styles. Free concert. All welcome

**Sat March 9<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm** Thames Consort and Friends directed by Jeremy Boughton in support of YoCo (Youth Challenge Oxfordshire). Vocal and instrumental music by Mozart, Handel, Vivaldi and Sweelink. Tickets available from the Coop or from John Cornelius 07912 351018.

**Sat March 23<sup>rd</sup> 7.00pm** Yu Kosuge at Dorchester Abbey Concert in aid of Helen and Douglas House  
Yu Kosuge is a world-class classical Japanese pianist, performing at leading music venues globally. With her superlative technique, sensitivity of touch, and profound understanding of the music she plays, Yu has become one of the world's most noted young musicians. Doors open 6:30, Performance begins at 7pm. Tickets £20 from <https://www.wegotickets.com/searchresults/adv>

# Village News

Village website: [www.culhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.culhamvillage.org.uk)

## Can You Help “The Mouthpiece”?

An **Advertising Manager** is needed to coordinate payments for advertisements and respond to queries about advertising in The Mouthpiece.

Sarah Cater has done an excellent job for many years, but now she is moving on – thank you Sarah!

Please contact Sarah, Anne or Rob if you think you could take on this role. Use of email is essential, beyond that any administrative or IT skills you have would be put to good use!

[generalmouthpiece@gmail.com](mailto:generalmouthpiece@gmail.com) or [advertmouthpiece@gmail.com](mailto:advertmouthpiece@gmail.com)

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## Culham Parish Council (CPC) Notes February 2019

There was no report from Sue Lawson, District Councillor, for February 2019. Report from Lorraine Lindsay-Gale, our County Councillor, published elsewhere in The Mouthpiece.

The reports from the SCGB group for submission to SODC about the Local Plan are close to completion and will be submitted soon

**There are Parish Council elections in May 2019. Currently CPC is one Councillor short of capacity. Please consider standing for this post. For details please contact the Clerk – details on the back of the Mouthpiece.**

The requirement for a replacement fence across the playing field is being pursued. One quote has been received and, due to the expected cost, others are in hand.

A quote from Wickstead play equipment firm has been received and is being discussed by the sub-group.

CPC will send a letter to the various interested parties concerning the Cambridge Expressway, questioning its validity and viability. Several questions about the scheme are being put to the recipients.

The received quotes for a ‘three cut per year’ request for the village are being examined prior to appointing a contractor.

A new auditor has been appointed for the CPC accounts. This is IAC Audit and Consultancy Ltd.

**During the recent high winds, several empty waste bins were found in various unusual locations. Please ensure your waste bins are retrieved as soon as possible after they have been emptied.**

### Next meeting

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 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.

The CPC website address:

<https://www.culham-pc.gov.uk/>

## Grit Bins

The Parish Council has confirmed that the contents of the Grit Bin are available for use in and around the village by anyone during icy or snowy weather conditions.

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## 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.



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## St Paul's Church

New for Easter – 8.30am Easter fire and breakfast bap on Easter Sunday!



Happy  
Mother's  
Day

*School & Church Service*

*Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm*

## St Paul's Events

*Stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com*

### March

*Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> 7.30 Quiz Night, Schumann Hall, Europa School tickets £10pp available 🇬🇧*  
*Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> 11am Parish Eucharist and Baptism.*  
*Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> 4pm Messy Church*  
*Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> 4pm Parish Eucharist*  
*Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm Mother's Day Service with Culham Parochial school to be confirmed*

### April

*Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm School Easter service*  
*Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> 11am Parish Eucharist*  
*Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 4pm Palm Sunday Messy Church*  
*Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 8.30am-9.20am Easter fire and breakfast bap.*  
*Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 9.30am Easter Service and hot cross buns.*

### Future Events:

*Plant Sale & Church fete 18<sup>th</sup> May*



*Stpaulsandculhamvillage*

There seems to be a hint of spring in the air and the evenings are already getting lighter. A good time to start something new. Why not come along and see what we will be doing in the coming months.

19<sup>th</sup> March      Our annual general meeting (members only)  
16<sup>th</sup> April        Mike Brook – Musings from the amateur stage.

**theWI**  
**INSPIRING WOMEN**



We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Village Hall in **Sutton Courtenay** at 7.30pm.

If you would like more information, please contact our Secretary Val on 01235 847612.

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## **Friends of St Paul's, Culham and Europa School PTA**

### **Quiz Night – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March , 7.30 pm**

To be held at Schuman Hall, Europa School, Culham  
Ploughman's Supper Included      Bar available for purchase of drinks  
Prizes & Raffle on the Night  
Tickets: Price £10pp from [stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com)  
or telephone Philip Owen 01235 555223 / John Ward 01235 525364  
Please form teams of 6 or just turn up and we will organise you into a team!



Parking available in Europa School Car Park opposite main gate on A415, Postcode OX14 3DZ  
All proceeds to go to Friends of St Pauls, Culham and Europa School PTA

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## **Culham Parochial School**

We will be celebrating our mothers in a service for Mother's Day on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm (*to be confirmed*) at St Paul's Church – please join us if you can!

Also the children will have a special Easter celebration at St Paul's Church on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30pm – we would love to see villagers there too!

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## **Dog Fouling**

Please remember to dispose of your dog's poo in the bins provided around the village. The incidence of dog poo on the public footpaths and pavements has risen again.



From SODC website: "Under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 a person who is in charge of a dog must clean up after it when it fouls any footpath, highway, verge or other open space to which the public have access. It is therefore a crime to allow a dog to foul in any public area without clearing it up. Those that fail to do so could face a fixed penalty notice of £50 or prosecution.

Here some tips to avoid a fine:

- never let your dog walk far from you as this makes it difficult to see when they foul
- always carry a bag when walking your dog so you can clean up. If you do not have a bag ask another dog walker if they have a spare bag
- encourage your dog to stay on the perimeters of fields or pitches to prevent any fouling causing harm to other people
- don't allow your dog to roam on its own as it could be taken away as a stray - collar and ID tag as well as microchipping are now required by law."

## **Report from Lorraine Lindsay-Gale, County Councillor, Feb 2019**

### **COMMUNITIES TO BE OFFERED HELP WITH YOUTH SERVICES**

Young people and their families in Oxfordshire are now set to benefit from improved community-run youth services if county councillors agree grant funding when they set the council's budget next week. Youth groups will be invited to put bids in to a £1m fund over two years, with encouragement to find match-funding from their local communities. Feedback from residents points to strong support for improving community-run youth services, and this money would help existing projects expand and new ones get off the ground. By offering start-up funding, the council has already helped many community-run groups provide support for young children and families, and it is hoped the same could happen for youth services. Community-run youth services would complement the work of the county council's Children's Services department, which targets its resources at children at risk of abuse and neglect. This proposal has been made possible by better than expected Council Tax collection following growth in Oxfordshire.

### **COUNTY COUNCIL TO INVEST IN SCHOOLS, TRANSPORT AND STREETLIGHTING**

Residents of Oxfordshire will see highway improvements, new school buildings and energy-efficient streetlighting thanks to a £1 billion investment over the next ten years as part of the county council's budget. However, the county council is also warning that funding pressure on services remains as demand for social care for vulnerable children and adults continues grow and continued financial prudence is required to meet those demands.

Transport schemes across the county are set for funding approval so the county council can improve journeys for drivers, pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users. Nearly £20m will be invested to increase the provision of school places for children with special needs in the county, including rebuilding Northfield School in Oxford with more pupil places.

The proposed capital programme includes government funding through the Oxfordshire Growth Deal, agreed by all Oxfordshire councils. Elsewhere in the Capital Programme a £41m street lighting improvement programme continues to be part of the investment plan, with traditional lanterns to be replaced with more energy efficient LED lighting, saving money in the long-run. The ten-year capital programme is part of the council's proposed budget for next year, which has been put forward following public consultation. The proposals will be put before all councillors on 12 February 2019.

To make sure the growing number of children at risk of abuse and neglect are protected, the children's social care budget has increased annually. It was £46m in 2011 and is forecast to be £95m in 2022/23 – more than doubling in ten years.

The council's budget for adult social care could increase by £5m in 2019/20, with further annual increases reaching nearly £6m by 2022/23 to increase support for the growing number of older and disabled people.

OCC is now reviewing the digital technology needed to make the council run more effectively and efficiently, including improving customer service by making it easier to access services online. The council has identified savings of £50m from changing the way services are delivered and has already started implementing these changes, including improving online 'self-service' HR and finance systems used by staff. As part of the partnership with Cherwell District Council, legal services for the two councils are being joined up.

### **CASH BOOST FOR FUTURE OF TRANSPORT IN OXFORDSHIRE**

Oxfordshire's road users could see a technological revolution take place in the coming years that could involve important traffic information being used to help them to get around more easily thanks to a successful bid for £1.25m of Government funding. The cash, which has been through the national GovTech Catalyst initiative towards work to transform the existing Oxfordshire traffic management system – ready for the Government's hoped-for introduction of connected vehicles by 2021 as well as other new mobility options, such as electric vehicles. Many people think of the new wave of transport in terms of cars. However, connected vehicles – anything that can be linked up via the internet to a wider system – could mean vans, buses, lorries, motor or pedal cycles. Even wheelchairs could take advantage of new technology to get around more easily. Everyone stands to benefit. Oxfordshire's money will pay for researching how data – of which there is lots and from varied sources – could be used to help manage traffic in the future.

## **MORE THAN 40,000 ROAD DEFECTS REPAIRED IN OXFORDSHIRE SINCE LAST WINTER**

OCC's highways teams are out daily relentlessly resurfacing roads and pavements. They have been able to do more work than last year thanks to the county council putting in extra cash over and above the normal budget in response to the problems caused during the last cold spell. Since January 2018 the council has repaired 40,117 defects. That's an average of 3,652 repairs a month which is quite colossal compared to what was needed during the same time period the year before – a total of 34,677 defects were repaired between Jan-Dec 2017. Due to severe weather last winter, pothole fixing peaked between February and May with nearly 18,000 being repaired. The county council this year invested an extra £10m in road repairs which has resulted in extra major resurfacing projects being completed as well as smaller, but no less important, repairs being completed across Oxfordshire.

## **BERINSFIELD BUS CLUB TO BE ESTABLISHED**

I am delighted that thanks to some great collaborative work between Jon Alcantara, the Europa School parent who runs the current Culham Bus Club, and the County Council, there will be a return bus service running from Berinsfield to Abingdon from now on. As it looks as if the Oxford Academy will be oversubscribed for places in September 2019, all new pupils getting places at Larkmead, Fitzharrises, and John Mason will be entitled to free transport as their other nearest school (Wallingford) is also going to be full. I hope this great news will reassure parents that there will no longer be any financial barrier to their children going to the excellent Abingdon schools, which I know would be their preference.

## **CULHAM TO GET SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION**

I agreed to fund an application from Culham Parish Council for a 40mph speed limit to be imposed all along the A415 between the 30mph limit at Abingdon and Culham, and along the length of the Burycroft. This new speed limit should be in place by early in April.

# Other News

The logo for Neighbourhood Policing newsletter, featuring the text 'Neighbourhood Policing' in a large, white, sans-serif font above the word 'newsletter' in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The background is a light blue gradient with faint silhouettes of people.The logo for Wallingford Neighbourhood Policing Team Newsletter, featuring the text 'Wallingford Neighbourhood Policing Team Newsletter' in a white, sans-serif font. The background is a solid green color.

Here is the latest Wallingford Sector neighbourhood update from PCSO Sue Harris. As I am writing this article it is very icy and cold outside. Hopefully this is the worst of the weather we get this winter. However, can we please remind people to make sure their vehicle is de-iced before driving and please drive carefully. This weather is also a timely reminder to check on elderly or vulnerable neighbours to ensure they are keeping warm and have enough food in the house.

### **Vamoose burglaries**

There have been a few vamoose burglaries in Didcot. A 'Vamoose' burglary is a name used by Thames Valley Police for a burglary that takes place specifically to steal the keys to a high value or new vehicle. Vamoose burglaries usually happen overnight when the occupants of a property are in bed asleep or whilst the home owners are away on holiday. Thames Valley Police would like to raise awareness as there has been a spate of recent offences across our Local Policing Area (LPA).

Recent offences have involved the offenders forcing entry to properties via the front door or a rear patio door. The ground floor of the property is then searched for the car keys. Typically, vehicle owners leave their car keys near to the front door or within a bag or coat pocket. The offenders will take the keys along with other nearby valuables such as phones/wallets, they then leave in your car! We are keen to prevent further offences and would like to offer you the following crime prevention advice:

- Hide your car keys away from windows and doors or take them up to bed with you
  - If you are planning on going on holiday or will be leaving your property unoccupied for a period of time, consider leaving your car keys with a trusted neighbour or relative and where possible block your vehicles on driveways
  - Ensure your doors and windows are locked, if you have a chain on the inside of your door, use it.
- Please see the home security leaflets enclosed for further useful advice

If you would like further advice on your home security, call 101. Ask for a member of your local Neighbourhood Policing Team to visit you.



## County Lines

You may have read and seen about the recent intensification week to target county lines drug dealing. Across Thames Valley Police more than 100 arrests and £133,000 was seized as part of this operation. Importantly 43 children and 69 vulnerable adults were safe guarded. Neighbourhood Policing is essential in obtaining results like this. You are best placed to know where your vulnerable neighbours are and when there are unusual comings and goings at their addresses. As a team we delivered well over 1,000 leaflets to specific roads in the Didcot and Wallingford area and developed significant intelligence to assist in future warrants and safeguarding opportunities.

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www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/livewell  
Your signpost to support services near you



## Live Better. Live Well Oxfordshire

Looking for information about services and activities in Oxfordshire?

Then Oxfordshire County Council's Live Well Oxfordshire directory is the place to start your search - the easy to search online directory brings together over 2000 services and activities. From care services to help people stay independent, transport services to help people get out and about, and new hobbies for people to enjoy to local carer groups. You'll find useful information and advice on a range of subjects – all aimed at giving you greater choice and control over the support and services you or a loved one need [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/livewell](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/livewell)

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## A Disappearing Act

Friday 8 Mar 2019 and Saturday 9 Mar 2019 at 7.30pm



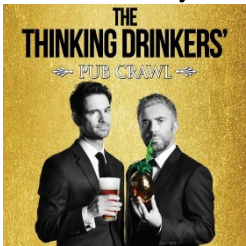
Incorporating magic, music and physical comedy, *A Disappearing Act* is an interactive, immersive show where the audience takes part as mourners attending a memorial service for a deceased magician. A comedy about how we want to be remembered and what we hope people will forget, *A Disappearing Act* explores our mortality, the rituals we use to accept it, say goodbye and remember the ones we love. Come take part in a memorial you won't forget. Seating is limited. Age guidance: 11+.

Prices: £12.50, conc £10.50, under 26s £5, Members 20% discount



## Thinking Drinkers: Pub Crawl

Saturday 16 Mar 2019 at 8:00pm



The Thinking Drinkers are back on tour with a brand-new, hilarious, intoxicating bar-hop through history.

Enjoy five free drinks as the award-winning experts take you from the symposiums of Ancient Greece to the classic British boozier via Wild West saloons, Victorian gin palaces and the secret Speakeasy.

You'll learn a lot, you'll laugh a lot and, don't forget, you get five free drinks.

Prices: £15

Age guidance: 18 yrs+

[www.cornerstone-arts.org](http://www.cornerstone-arts.org)

Box Office: 01235 515144

25 Station Road, Didcot, OX11 7NE

**Music At The Unicorn's next concert at the beautiful Unicorn theatre in Abingdon-on-Thames is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March and stars the great STEVE TILSTON.**



amazing venue  
amazing music  
amazing experience

join the mailing list for updates!

We are thrilled to welcome Steve Tilston back to the Unicorn for another evening of fantastic music.

**FANTASTIC LIVE MUSIC**  
IN THE BEAUTIFUL UNICORN THEATRE

He is one of our most celebrated songsmiths, widely recognised within the world of folk and contemporary music; the words, arrangements and subtle, quite superb guitar playing could be no one else.

His record release, 'The Reckoning' received 4-star review in the Guardian, The Observer and the Scotsman, a guest appearance on Later with Jools Holland and the BBC 4 Songwriters' Circle series, plus a Folk Awards win: 'best original song' for the title track.

Born in Liverpool and raised in the Midlands, Steve made his recording debut in 1971 with the classic, "An Acoustic Confusion" and has been turning out quality albums ever since.

*"One of the great voices of English music, one of the great composers of English music....I have so much respect for Steve Tilston"* - **Bob Harris**

*"A songwriter and guitarist I admire"* – **Bert Jansch**



For more information: [www.stevetilston.com](http://www.stevetilston.com)

Doors: 7pm | Music: 7:15pm | Main Act: 8:00pm

Tickets: £15 – MOSTLY BOOKS, 36 Stert Street, Abingdon OX14 3JP (Cash only)

or [www.musicattheunicorn.org.uk](http://www.musicattheunicorn.org.uk) Unicorn Theatre, Checker Walk, Abingdon

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**Abingdon Drama Club proudly presents**

## **Black Comedy**

By Peter Shaffer

Directed by Susi Dalton

**ABINGDON** 1944 - 2019  
**DRAMA**  
**CLUB** **75** YEARS

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

**Doors 7pm. Performance 8pm**

**Unicorn Theatre, Abingdon-on-Thames**

This one-act farce opens on a darkened stage. A few minutes into the show there is a short circuit, and the stage is illuminated to reveal the characters in a "blackout."

Brindsley Miller, a young sculptor, and his debutante fiancée Carol Melkett have borrowed some expensive, antique furniture from his neighbour Harold's flat without his permission in order to impress an elderly millionaire art collector coming to view Brindsley's work, and Carol's father Colonel Melkett. When the power fails, Harold returns early, Brindsley's ex-mistress Clea shows up unexpectedly and things slide into disaster for him.

**This is 75 minutes of pure theatrical pleasure.**

"One of the funniest and most brilliant short plays in the language" –  
**The Sunday Times.**

**Tickets:** £10, £8 concessions (60+, students, ADC members)

**Group Bookings:** Groups of 10 and over - All tickets £8 (£8.55 when booked online - Just select the concession rate ticket and choose the number you require). Please get in touch if there are any problems with your booking. **Tickets available from:** The Bookstore, The Abingdon Precinct (15 Bury St), Abingdon.

Email: [tickets@unicornboxoffice.org.uk](mailto:tickets@unicornboxoffice.org.uk) Telephone: 0845 4636638

[www.abingdon-drama-club.com](http://www.abingdon-drama-club.com) enquiries@abingdon-drama-club.com

# My Fair Lady



Packed with hit songs, including 'Wouldn't It Be Lovely', 'I Could Have Danced All Night' and 'Get Me To The Church On Time', this Learner and Loewe classic will give delight to both members and audience alike.

7.30pm Tues to Sat, 2.30pm matinee on Sat

Amey Theatre, Abingdon School OX14 1DE

Tickets online from:

[www.abingdonoperatic.co.uk](http://www.abingdonoperatic.co.uk)

or telephone 01235 834383

You can book unnumbered balcony seats from our friends at the Newbury Building Society in West St Helen Street, Abingdon.

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## 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 April issue of the Mouthpiece by March 15<sup>th</sup>, please, to:

[generalmouthpiece@gmail.com](mailto:generalmouthpiece@gmail.com)

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## LOCAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

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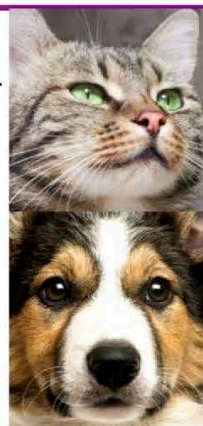
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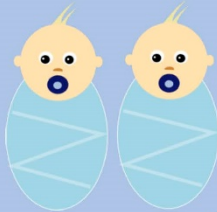
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# WHO IS WHO IN CULHAM?

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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	
<b>CLERK TO PARISH COUNCIL</b>			
Lucy Dalby	culhampc@googlemail.com	76 Evenlode Drive, Didcot OX11 7XQ	01235 817464
<b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR</b>			
Sue Lawson	sue.lawson@southoxon.gov.uk		07899 963236
<b>COUNTY COUNCILLOR</b>			
Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	lorraine.lindsay-gale@oxfordshire.gov.uk	Nut Tree Cottage, The Green South, Warborough OX10 7DR	01865 858976
<b>ST PAUL'S CHURCH</b>			
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
<b>FRIENDS OF ST PAUL'S CHURCH</b>			
Chairman:	Philip Owen	6 The Green, Culham	01235 555223
<b>CULHAM PAROCHIAL SCHOOL (Thames Bridge C of E Federation)</b>			
Head Teacher:	Mrs Lisa Horton	The School, High Street, Culham	01235 521766
Chair of Governors:	Debbie Croft	c/o Clifton Hampden School	01865 407700
<b>LADIES OF CULHAM (LOC)</b>			
Mary Rickford	mary@therickfords.com	The Clock House, Culham	01235 528052
<b>ST PAUL'S AND CULHAM VILLAGE REORDERING COMMITTEE</b>			
Philip Owen	stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com	6 The Green, Culham	01235 555223
<b>CULHAM POOR ALLOTMENTS TRUST</b>			
Gordon Gibbs	grgibbs@btinternet.com	32 High Street, Culham	01235 523679
<b>POLICE</b>			
Neighbourhood Policing Team		Non-emergency Phone Number	101
<b>THE MOUTHPIECE</b>			
		generalmouthpiece@gmail.com	
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