

The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter

March 2020



For your diary:

Sunday March 1st:	11am	Parish Communion	St Paul's
Sunday March 8th:	4pm	Messy Church (children centred activities)	St Paul's
Monday March 10th:	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Culham School
Sunday March 15th:	4pm	Parish Communion	St Paul's
Saturday March 21st :	4pm	Children's Film Club	St Paul's
		<i>Charlie & The Chocolate Factory</i>	
Saturday March 28th:	3pm	Lego Club	St Paul's

Church service times



Culham

Sun March 1st 11:00 Parish Communion
Sun March 8th 16:00 Messy Church (child-friendly, children's activities)
Sun March 15th 16:00 Parish Communion

Clifton Hampden and Burcot

Sun March 1st 08:00 BCP Communion
Sun March 8th 10:30 Parish Communion
Sun March 22nd 11:00 Messy Church (child-friendly, children's activities at 10:30)

Long Wittenham and Little Wittenham

Sun March 1st Long W 09:30 Family Service, crafts and breakfast
Sun March 8th Long W 09:30 Parish Communion
Sun March 15th Little W 08:30 BCP Holy Communion
Sun March 22nd Long W 09:30 Parish Communion

29th March is a Team Service to be held at Warborough Parish Church at 10.30am

Talking Point - Dorchester Team Clergy



March is the month when we celebrate our families and our mothers. Of course, I am thinking of Mothering Sunday, the one special day in the year for children of all ages to spoil their mums! We are thankful for our mums and show them our love with flowers and chocolates, bringing them breakfast in bed, or taking them out for lunch.

On this very special day I think it is also lovely to remember and give thanks for all the women who have nurtured us or influenced the course of our lives. Families come in all sorts of shapes and sizes, and a mother's love can be manifested in a variety of different ways. Sometimes the significant women in our lives may be a teacher who has guided and advised us, an elderly neighbour who has befriended us, or a friend who has taken time to be there for us and supported us through a difficult moment.

We could also reflect this month on **our** role as a 'mother' to others. There is a saying 'it takes a village to raise a child' and certainly our local community is stronger when we all take responsibility for the young or vulnerable members in our community. In today's society of county line gangs, social isolation and mental health concerns we can all have an enormous positive influence on children and young people; and we do not have to be their mother to show them love, to offer guidance, or to tell them they are valued. Jesus once spoke of himself in the role of a mother, comparing himself to a mother hen who worries about her children and yearns to protect them from harm. In caring for vulnerable people around us, we follow his example.



So, in this month when we remember the importance of our mothers in our lives, let us **all** show our children and young people a little love. And each of us, whether we are men or women, recognise our role as 'mothers' who can make the world a brighter and more hopeful place.

Events in the Abbey:

Narnia Exhibition Open until 8th March – Please see the Abbey website for details.

Sat 7th March 7.30pm Thames Consort Concert

Thames Consort, led by director Jeremy Boughton, bring a varied programme of vocal and instrumental music to raise money for Dorchester Abbey

Sharon Warnes & Claire Parkin (Violins) Judith Dallosso ('Cello) Glynne Stackhouse (continuo organ)

Sat 14th March 7.30pm Benson Choral Concert

Vaughan Williams' epic Sea Symphony is a landmark in British choral music of the early 20th century. It is not often performed live because of its huge scale, so please join us, along with the Elgar Orchestra and soloists Lorena Paz Nieto and Stephen Gadd, all under the skilful baton of our guest conductor Richard Laing.

And you get a big bonus when our accompanist, Anita D'Attellis takes centre stage to play Grieg's Piano Concerto. Tickets from bensonchoralsociety.org.uk

Sat 21st March 7.30pm Berkshire Maestros

Berkshire Maestros senior choir Berkshire Youth Choir and their alumni members will be in concert with Berkshire Maestros chamber orchestra Camerata in the beautiful setting of Dorchester Abbey. The concert will culminate in a performance of Vivaldi's Gloria.

Tickets from berkshiremaestros.org.uk

Team Events:

Fri 6th March Women's World Day of Prayer

The Women's World Day of Prayer service will be in St Mary's Church, Long Wittenham on Friday 6 March at 7pm.

The service has been prepared by the Women of Zimbabwe and the theme is 'Rise! Take your mat and walk'.

Please contact Janet Haylett familyhaylett@yahoo.com if you would like to help or take part.

Sun April 5th 6.00pm Team Service

Every year we offer a reflective service for the Dorchester Team to begin Holy Week. Please join us for reflections in music, pictures and readings.

Team Curate

Our new curate, Catherine Schneider, was ordained last summer and will be training within the Dorchester Team for approximately the next three years. She lives in Kennington (just south of Oxford) with her husband, Stephen and three young adult children (aged 16-20). She trained at Ripon College, Cuddesdon and before that had worked in a variety of roles - as a Debt Coach for Christians Against Poverty, playleader in a pre-school setting, parish administrator for her sending church in central Oxford, private French and German tutor and NHS manager. She has always been a generalist and is delighted that her ordained role gives the opportunity to combine many passions. She also loves reading, being outside (gardening and walking) and spending time with her family of film buffs. She is looking forward to getting to know you all, and to learning more about the area and the many churches within it.

Village News

Village website: www.culhamvillage.org.uk

New Vicar appointed!

Licensing of The Reverend Canon Mark Haworth

The Dorchester Team are delighted to announce we have appointed the Reverend Canon Mark Haworth to the Dorchester Team to serve in the Bridge Group of Parishes. The Bishop of Dorchester will License Mark in Dorchester Abbey on **31st March 2020 at 7.30pm** and we look forward to seeing many of his new parishioners and members of the Team there to welcome him.

Mark was brought up in Sale, Blackburn and Altrincham, and is an honours-graduate forester from Aberdeen University (1973) where inter alia he was President of the University Forestry Society, played hockey for the university, and sang in the Scottish Episcopalian Cathedral (St Andrew's) Choir when not walking in the Cairngorms and West Highlands. His subsequent 15 year career as a District Officer in the Forestry Commission took him to Peebles, Kendal, Thetford and Ludlow from where he became a Hereford ordinand in 1988.

Mark has three children and three grandchildren.

Mark trained for the priesthood at Westcott House, Cambridge, serving his title curacy at Cherry Hinton & Teversham, before becoming Vicar of the Swaffhams & Reach, Rural Dean of Fordham, and Sub-Warden of Readers for the Archdeaconry of Ely, all in the diocese of Ely where he also served on a number of diocesan committees. After a brief spell as School Chaplain at Framlingham College and Brandeston Hall School in Suffolk, he became Bishop's Chaplain at Peterborough, moving then to the diocese of Manchester to become Team Rector of the Pendleton Team Ministry, which then became the Salford All Saints Team Ministry ultimate comprising five churches, where he was also Borough Dean of Salford, again serving on a number of diocesan committees and the Bishops Council.

After 7 years Mark moved to become Vicar of Rochdale, and was Acting Area Dean covering a sabbatical; he was made an Honorary Canon of Manchester Cathedral in 2012 in token of his varied diocesan involvements alongside busy parish and team ministry, which latterly included being Chair of the Manchester Area Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) and continued involvement with Affirming Catholicism and the Society of Catholic Priests.

In his nearly 7 years in St Edmundsbury & Ipswich he has been a Rural Dean for nearly 6 years, served on Diocesan Synod, Bishop Council, Safeguarding Panel, RSCM, Diocesan Council for Church Music, and the Diocesan Board of Patronage, Archdeaconry Mission & Pastoral Committee, and was acting Archdeacon of Sudbury covering a sabbatical.

Mark has a real heart for collaborative parish ministry, and teams in particular; he is a member of the Society of the Resurrection at Mirfield, West Yorkshire, and has experience of leading away-days and pilgrimages to holy places within these islands. He considers that he has embraced a wide breadth of worship, spirituality, prayer-life and music in his lay and ordained ministry, and that his faith journey is Christ-centred, Biblically-grounded and pastorally-driven, undergirded by a facility and desire for good administration, prayer and parties! He looks forward very much to working within the Bridge Group and the whole Dorchester Team, its schools, the deanery and the diocese, building on what has gone before, and that which is already in place and flourishing.

Mark continues to sing annually with the Manchester Cathedral Voluntary Choir and will enjoy becoming involved musically in South Oxfordshire. He also particularly enjoys fellwalking and landscape, architecture, concerts, theatre and film; he is also a lifetime supporter of Blackburn Rovers FC (which feeds his love of sacrificial loyalty and sardonic humour). Mark and his third faithful Labrador Honey enjoy local walking and spending time with family and friends, and he also hopes to pick up his racquet-sports more often than has been possible of late.

Culham Parish Council (CPC) – Feb 2020

Public participation

VE (Peace in Europe) Day proposals for a party on the Green were presented. There was a request for a hired toilet to be paid for by CPC for the event. ACPC sub committee is to be set up.

Waggon and Horses – Morrels met with SODC last week and permission to build the houses as proposed by Morrels was refused.– Morrels are expected now to apply to build a bigger motel on the site, and then sell the site. Currently OCC still not allowing highways access.

Clerk's report

OCC has decided to close Culham school. The remaining 8 children will continue to be bussed to Clifton Hampden school.

On 18 February, OCC will discuss the building's future with the Diocese.

Grant money for the recently planted village trees has come through from SODC

Speeding

The Thame lane speed survey is about to go ahead. A survey on Tollgate road will follow

Bridleway

An estimate for the delivery of 10t of gravel will be obtained.

Broadband

After asking OCC about installation, CPC will hear back 'in due course'

Neighbourhood Plan (NHP)

SODC has sent through information about the initial stages of setting up a NHP.

There is a public meeting on 26 February

Next meeting

Tuesday 10th March 2020 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.

Village website address:

<https://www.culhamvillage.org.uk/>

The CPC website address:

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

Culham School Samplers

There is a display of six Culham school embroidery 'samplers' on display in the attic room of the Abingdon Museum until 29 March. Dating mainly from the latter years of the late 19th century, they show the type of work undertaken by children during this period. They are on loan from Culham School.

District Councillor's Report Feb 2020 - Sam Casey-Rerhaye

Firstly apologies for missing reports in December and January, I had to take unscheduled leave, and then had a nasty cough and cold for over two weeks.

Local Plan

As I write, we are waiting for the County Council to debate a motion on whether to accept the responsibility of the emerging Local Plan (eLP2034) if the Minister (Rt Hon Robert Jenrick) offers it to them which he has indicated he is minded to do, stripping it away from the District council. The County Council have been recommended to accept it pending financial arrangements, which could mean SODC are forced to transfer money and officers/resources as well. We have already requested a face to face meeting with the Secretary of State (as has Layla Moran MP in the House of Commons) but have heard nothing. We cannot discuss options and compromises with ourselves! It seems that the Minister is prepared to do the exceptional act of passing the Plan to the County but not that of signing off the funding for the new Thames crossing and fly-over in Didcot and pausing our Growth Deal commitment which would allow us to create a new Plan without affecting others. Thank you for all your efforts in writing to the Minister and copying in your MP. There seems to be little respect from government for the obvious democratic mandate we received, I'm afraid, but there is a determination to force through this plan whatever opposition exists. So much for 'respecting democracy'. I will keep you updated as events happen.

Minerals and Waste Local Plan site allocations consultation

This runs until 4th March if you wish to respond. https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/file/planning-minerals-and-waste/OMWLP_SiteAllocationsFINALPLAN.pdf

The only quarry site in South Oxfordshire to be proposed in this Plan is one in Nuneham Courtenay/Sandford border. This is in the Nuneham park area, a Grade 1 listed building and park and with a Grade 1 listed view which this quarry will interrupt. There are major problems with the site itself – archaeological remains going back to Roman times and earlier, ancient burial sites, and it is also very close to some houses in Lower Farm Road. Of course, the traffic generated could be extremely disruptive to Sandford and Nuneham Courtenay village where the houses do not have foundations. I am working with both parishes to help object to this site which I think is highly unsuitable and could cause permanent damage.

Climate Emergency – One year Work Plan

The newly created Climate Emergency Advisory Committee has recommended a one-year programme of priorities be approved by Council as a start to our aims of becoming a carbon neutral council by 2025 and a carbon neutral district by 2030.

CEAC members went through the programme on how the council might begin to embed sustainability in policies and start some feasibility studies on energy savings in council buildings and leisure centres, including identifying opportunities to introduce solar energy and heat pumps.

The report also looked at how the council could develop a sustainable travel plan for officers and councillors, an action plan to reduce single use plastic and help to promote walking and cycling to reduce vehicle emissions.

Cllr Sue Roberts, Chair of CEAC said, "We've worked hard to produce this one-year programme to help us tackle the climate catastrophe and, if the Council agrees, this programme will kickstart our journey towards becoming a carbon neutral council by 2025 and district by 2030. We are inviting our parish councils and community organisations to get involved and to work with us to help us make a difference at a local level."

Residents, parish councillors and community groups are welcome to attend the next meeting to hear the committee's discussions and/or speak to the committee. To request to speak at the meeting, please contact democratic.services@southandvale.gov.uk.

Finance

A draft budget for 2020-21 has been presented to Cabinet and Scrutiny. It will be presented to Full Council on Thursday 13th February where there will/will have been (depending when you are reading this) a debate and vote on whether to approve it. There are council tax rises proposed in this budget, a substantial amount of savings identified (partly due to the insourcing of the accounting function from Capita, which has allowed officers to work in much more detail than before- a big advantage) and a plan to work on a longer-term changes in the Council to address the very large deficit which the previous administration created.

I need to emphasise the precarity of local government finances across the country at the moment. We have been waiting for a long-term review of local government finance for a number of years now, and hope this will be a priority with the new government in Westminster. But to share with you something of what other councils are feeling and planning too:

A recent survey of local Councils has found that:

- *Nearly all councils (97%) plan to increase council tax in 2020/21, with most (93%) planning to raise it by more than 1.5%*
- *Nearly all councils (97%) plan to increase fees and charges in 2020/21, with some being forced to raise them 'by the maximum possible amount' (14%)*
- *Confidence in the sustainability of local government finance remains very low, with three quarters (74%) of councils saying they do not feel confident*
- *1 in 10 councils (12%) say they are in danger of being unable to fulfil statutory duties this year and 1 in 7 councils (14%) said they anticipate an increase in judicial challenges to the level of service provision this year*

We have created a 5-year plan for addressing the deficit and will be reviewing it at least annually but more often as needs arise. I am glad to say I am confident that it has been thoroughly prepared.

Corporate Plan

Not the most interesting of topics in itself but this is actually the crucial place where we set out our values and priorities as administration. This is different from the Local Plan as it covers everything the District does, not just housing and development. We will complete this by the beginning of the new financial year in April and it will influence (and is already influencing in its draft form) how we focus our work and responsibilities. I will let you know when it is published. Our aims are in line with the climate emergency and the ecological risks we face, including ward councillors and their communities being more involved in day to day decision-making, and finding ways to create real & permanently affordable housing.

Waste Enforcement Efforts

You may have seen recent publicity about fly-tippers being prosecuted by SODC. Now we are launching a new campaign to highlight the anti-social blight of littering. A waste enforcement team will be attending a number of local events to explain the laws around littering and fly-tipping, & to answer questions.

Anti-Idling

The anti-idling campaign is continuing throughout the next few months, with posters distributed widely, adverts placed on petrol pumps and flyers included with Council Tax bills. This is a major initiative to address the problems we have with Air Quality in many of our towns, including Henley, Watlington and Wallingford.

Changes to how SODC will support Neighbourhood Development Plans

At its meeting on 30th January, the Cabinet considered and approved a proposal to change the way the Council supports Neighbourhood Development Plan teams, following changes in the way that central government grants

operate. From 1st April 2020, the Council will continue to be responsible for any Referendums or Inspections that are required by law, and will provide a wide range of advice at all stages of the process (including reviews), but will no longer provide grant support.

The background to this decision is that the funding provided by central Government to the district council has changed in the following ways:

- It has reduced by £10,000 per plan.
- In most cases the council only becomes eligible to receive grant funding if a plan successfully reaches the referendum stage rather than at different stages throughout the process.
- Revised arrangements limit the number of claims that can be made in a neighbourhood area when progressing a neighbourhood plan review. Only one claim may be submitted per neighbourhood area in a five-year period. Historically, we have been one of a very limited number of councils that have passed on part of the grant funding we receive from central Government to cover our costs in supporting neighbourhood planning directly to neighbourhood planning groups.

At the same time, the grant support from the government directly to neighbourhood planning groups has increased over the years - it includes up to £17,000 financial support, additional financial support up to £10,000 on a pilot scheme for those seeking to promote affordable housing, and technical support.

Officers will continue to help Neighbourhood Planning groups to identify and apply for alternative grant funding, and will offer expert advice and technical support

As ever, please contact me at sam.casey-rerhaye@southoxon.gov.uk or call and leave a message on 01235 799489

Upcoming Events at St Pauls



St David's Day
1st March



St Paul's

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <i>Sunday 1st</i> | <i>11_{am}</i> | <i>Parish Eucharist
All welcome</i> |
| <i>Sunday 8th</i> | <i>4_{pm}</i> | <i>Messy Church
Kid's Club Craft activity
and refreshments</i> |
| <i>Sunday 15th</i> | <i>4_{pm}</i> | <i>Parish Eucharist
All welcome</i> |
| <i>Saturday 21st</i> | <i>2.30_{pm}</i> | <i>Kids Film Club
Charlie and the
Chocolate Factory</i> |



Saturday 28th *3_{pm}*



Lego Club



stpaulsandculhamvillage
info@stpaulsculham.co.uk

HAPPY
Mother's
DAY
22nd March

County Councillor's Report Feb 2020– Cllr. Lorraine Lindsay-Gale



County Council budget offers Oxfordshire residents new investment in social services, schools and roads

Proposals for an “investment budget” to reduce neglect, ill-health and social isolation will be considered by councillors when Oxfordshire County Council sets its budget on Tuesday 11 February, following resident and business consultation.

The proposals include community support for vulnerable people so they can live independently for longer, and more help for struggling families to reduce the chances of children having to go into care.

Funding for children and adult social services would increase by **£30 million** next year, including an extra £8.1 million from the government. This money is needed to support an increase in adult social care needs for both older and disabled people, as well as the increasing number of child protection cases, which has grown in line with national trends.

The budget proposals also include investment in infrastructure across the county, such as an extra **£50 million** for new and existing schools over ten years. Most of the funding comes from housing developers to meet the need for more pupil places in Oxfordshire.

The county council proposes to spend **£30 million** in 2020/21 from its capital budget on repairs to roads, bridges, drainage and footways across Oxfordshire's towns and villages, with major schemes scheduled in Banbury, Abingdon and Witney.

New funding of **£3 million** per year is proposed to improve local road safety and accessibility, including new pedestrian crossings, improved junctions and better bus stop facilities. These measures are designed to encourage walking and cycling as part of the council's commitment to improving air quality and active lifestyles.

Responding to climate change features prominently across budget proposals, including support for sustainable travel such as improving park and ride services on the A40, and the replacement of over 50,000 streetlights with energy-efficient LEDs. However all budget proposals have to consider the climate change agenda and how the county council will meet its carbon neutral target by 2030.

Go ahead for full business case for project to reduce congestion into and around Oxford

Oxfordshire County Council and Oxford City Council cabinets have approved plans to develop a detailed business case for a project to reduce congestion on routes into and around Oxford, improve air quality and reduce carbon emissions.

The aim of “Connecting Oxford” is to make a real improvement to journey times for commuters, other travellers and quality of life for residents and visitors, including improved air quality.

This will be done by reducing the number of cars travelling into and around the city and encouraging more people to travel by buses, walking and cycling. The business plan was informed by a survey run in autumn 2019 on an outline of possible proposals. Over 3000 responses were received from residents, employers and other major city organisations including the NHS and universities.

The plans include:

- Three new bus gates at Worcester Street, Thames Street and St Cross Road/South Parks Road to reduce the number of motor vehicle trips which pass through the city centre
- In the eastern arc of Oxford, an area that covers north, east and south-east Oxford inside the ring road
- A Workplace Parking Levy (WPL) is proposed across the eastern arc,
- Benefits to employers and staff include sustainable travel improvements and parking management; discounts on bus fares, park & ride buses and parking and discounts on bike purchases

Revenue from the WPL will also provide a locally controlled source of funding to be used for new and improved bus services as well as funding for additional Park & Ride capacity and better walking and cycling routes. There will also be a significant and rapid expansion of Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) across Oxford, including nine new CPZ areas.

Plans to go ahead with the steps included in the study will be open to further input by the public, business, employers and other city organisations to address concerns and technical details. This includes the creation of a ‘Connecting Oxford Partnership’, involving several employers within the proposed WPL zone, to help shape the proposals.

Further public engagement work will be carried during the rest of 2020, with the next public consultation expected to take place in winter 2020/21.

New community library opens in Barton as part of the County Council's commitment to the service

A new community library has opened in the Barton area of Oxford as part of a community-led project between Oxfordshire County Council, Oxford City Council and the Barton Community Association. The new community library is another sign of Oxfordshire County Council's commitment to its library service, with 44 libraries now serving communities across the county and a home library service supporting those unable to get out to their local branch. Botley Library will also move to a new home in the West Way development in February.

Despite the pressure to make saving across local government, with the support of residents and volunteers, Oxfordshire libraries remain open to serve all and at the heart of their communities.

New online waste information tool launched to help boost recycling rates

Waste Wizard launched! See advert in a few pages!.

Plant Sale & Church Fete

Saturday 16th May 1 pm - 4pm

- Tea & Cake Stall
- Books
- Bar
- BBQ
- Raffle
- Children's Activities




[stpaulsandculhamvillage](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsandculhamvillage)

Culham Green

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.





St Paul's and Culham Village
Street Party on the Green
Friday 8th May
Celebration of peace in Europe

Jo Oughtred

A street party to be held on the Village Green is being organised by Culham Parish Council and St Pauls for the May Bank Holiday 8th May, we have representatives from the majority of Culham areas and if you wish to help organise please contact info@stpaulsculham.co.uk, we hope to include picnic style food, bar and traditional games + more

Contacts:

High Street 1-24: **Steve Gray**
Tollgate Road: **Laura Cooper**
The Glebe: **Jane McCord (interim)**
Barns: **None**

High Street 24-44: **Kieron Baker**
Thame Lane: **Ruth Ward (interim)**
The Green: **Jo Oughtred**
Railway Station: **None**



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Bouncy Castle

Available for hire

£40 per day/ £65 per weekend

(Hirer to collect and return to Culham)

Contact Roy Epps stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com



Experiences of A Litter Crusader by Paul Saunders

You may have seen a bearded man wandering around the Culham locality with a sack and litter picker and discovered that all of the bins were ram-jammed full of rubbish. A litter Crusader was at work - that person was I. I moved into Culham in late November 2019 and started taking daily walks to aid my recovery from a major operation and continuing medical treatment. My enjoyment of the beautiful scenery around Culham was constantly spoilt by my encountering litter, particularly along the footpaths, the river and Sutton Pools. I was astounded at the amount of rubbish, particularly that washed up on the river banks. Having found a broken litter- picker in a bin and repaired it, I began a Litter Crusade. This resulted in my collecting at least 35 sacks of rubbish, discovering some interesting objects and learning about how the river's currents act upon different shaped objects, such as plastic bottles.

I retrieved 10 sacks of plastic bottles from one area of the river bank. Many of them revealed their presence underneath the flattened reeds with a distinctive crunch when walked upon. That they were all in this one location demonstrated how the currents worked on bottles. In another location I found six tennis balls, which demonstrated how the currents work on a sphere. A mass of fishing line was discovered in another area and so on; therefore, this proved to have been an interesting education into how the river's currents work on different shaped objects, some of which were concerning. I discovered 4 black plastic containers/safe boxes used for the disposal of hypodermic syringes at different locations; other syringes were found not in containers and with needles still intact on the river bank. It's worrying to think of the consequences of children finding such items. On a more pleasant note, a very interesting item I found was a Japanese Codd bottle.

"What cod's wallop is this chap talking about and hasn't he spelt cod with two ds, and do the Japanese really put cod in bottles?" Let me explain: in 1873 a Mr. Codd came up with the idea of the globe stoppered bottle, a bottle that was stoppered, or sealed, by the pressure of the carbonated/fizzy drink contained within forcing a marble inside upon a rubber seal near to the top of the neck of the bottle. To open a globe stoppered bottle, so to speak, you would push down on the marble resulting in the pressure being released and the marble sinking down into the bottle. To prevent the marble rolling back towards the neck and obstructing it when taking a drink, or pouring from the bottle, the bottle was pinched, or squidged, below the neck during manufacture, forming lugs on the inside, which trapped the marble and created a distinctive shape to the bottle, a shape not unlike a fish, a head, gills and body. I had always believed that the bottles were named "Cod" bottles because of their fish like appearance until I discovered that their name is that of their inventor when I researched the history of an antique British Codd bottle that I had found at a car-boot sale and which has embossed on it Jones' Bros, Oxford. I also discovered that bottles of this type were still being produced in Japan so imagine my surprise and delight at finding one of these unique Japanese Codd bottles on the river bank at Culham and which now makes a perfect companion to my British Codd bottle- if only that Japanese Codd bottle could talk.... I've talked enough cod's wallop so I will bring my Litter Crusader diary to an end, although you may be interested to know that I did receive a reward for all my hard work, the discovery of a mud covered £5 note, which, once washed, was in perfect condition so a big thank you to The Bank of England for laminating their notes with plastic.



Litter Collecting Tally

- 10 tennis balls
- 1 leather cricket ball (excellent condition)
- 1 £5.00 note
- 1 Sitka Spruce sailing dinghy boom
- 2 boat fenders (woven)

- 1 Japanese Codd Bottle
- 3 fishing floats
- 2 swim feeders
- 2 fishing lures
- 4 black plastic safe boxes with syringes inside
- 5 loose syringes
- 1 large plastic funnel (Industrial size)
- 1 baby doll
- 1 Samsonite suitcase (no money or body inside)
- 1 kitchen swing bin
- 1 plastic petrol container
- 35 sacks of plastic bottles and miscellaneous rubbish



Sutton Courtenay W.I.



Despite the recent weather spring will soon be in the air, a perfect time to come along and find out what we are up to. Trips out, Cinema Club, interesting speakers, craft and social evenings too.

Dates for our next meetings:

17th March – Annual Meeting (members only)

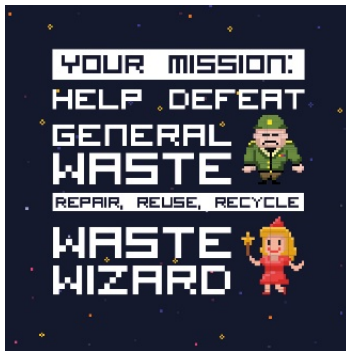
21st April – Mike Brook – Top of The Greasy Pole

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

If you would like any more info, please call Val on 847612.



Other News/Events



Get your waste to the right place!

A new and magical hero is in town to kill the confusion around recycling. The Waste Wizard is a new online tool that's here to provide a magical solution to help Oxfordshire residents in their quest to solve the riddle of household waste and defeat General Waste.

Type in your postcode and the name of any item to find out whether it can be reused, repaired, donated, recycled, if it needs to go into a specific bin or can be disposed of at a Household Waste Recycling Centre

- oxfordshire.gov.uk/wastewizard



Household Waste Recycling Centres

Closed for 2 days in March & April

During March and April, your Household Waste Recycling Centre will be closing for two days to carry out a deep clean and essential maintenance

Closing dates:

Alkerton (Banbury)	Tues 3 & Wed 4 March
Ardley (Bicester)	Tues 17 & Wed 18 March
Dix Pit (Stanton Harcourt)	Tues 24 & Wed 25 March
Drayton (Abingdon)	Tues 28 & Wed 29 April
Oakley Wood (Wallingford)	Tues 31 March & Wed 1 April
Redbridge (Oxford)	Tues 10 & Wed 11 March
Stanford (Faringdon)	Tues 21 & Wed 22 April

Visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wasteclosure for full details, including details of your nearest alternative site during closures

For those residents with van or trailer permits, please note these can be used at any of our centres



New theatre company perform new version of old classic.

Frankenstein by Nick Dear. Based on the novel by Mary Shelley.

Unicorn Theatre Abingdon.

Tuesday 31st March – Thursday 2nd April 7.30pm

Moonhawk, the new theatre company based in Abingdon-on-Thames, has been created to give opportunities to actors and technicians of all ages with a focus on supporting performers wanting to go to drama school. The company will be performing a wide range of different plays, both new and old. We welcome anyone interested in all aspects of theatre production on or backstage.

This is the company's first production. The story was written by the 18 year-old Mary Shelley in 1816! It was created as part of a competition between Mary, her husband Percy Bysshe Shelley and Lord Byron to see who could write the best horror story. After days of thinking, Mary had a dream about a scientist who created life and was horrified by what he had done. The novel was first published, anonymously, when she was only 20 years old.

It has been called the first true science fiction story and is infused with elements of Gothic and Romantic fiction. The story of the creature is full of extraordinary moments of tenderness, violence and insights into the human condition.

Tickets: £10 (age 12+ only) from Mostly Books, Stert Street, Abingdon (cash only) or www.moonhawk.org or on the door.




Abingdon Operatic Society Presents

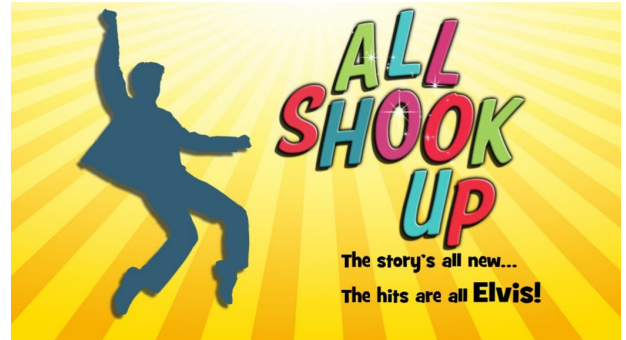
“All Shook Up” Tues 14th April to Sat 18th April, 7.30pm
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Visit www.abingdonoperatic.co.uk for tickets and more information. Box Office **0333 666 3366**

 Abingdon Operatic Society – AOS



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. Please send contributions for the April issue of the Mouthpiece by March 15th to:

generalmouthpiece@gmail.com

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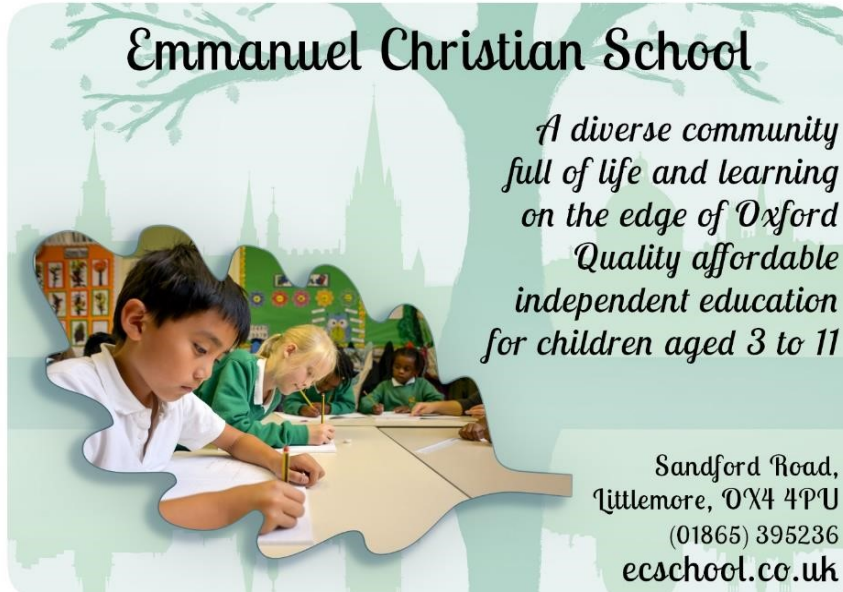
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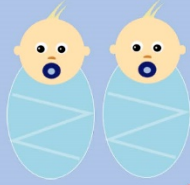


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