

# The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter  
**July/August 2022**



## Dates for your Diary

Sat 2 July	4pm	 <b>Syrian Night</b> 	The Green
Sun 3 July	11am	Family Holy Communion	St Pauls Church
Sun 10 July	11am	Holy Communion	St Pauls Church
Tues 12 July	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	St Pauls Church
Sun 17 July	11am	<b>Messy Church</b>	St Pauls Church
Sun 7 Aug	11am	Family Holy Communion	St Pauls Church
Sun 14 Aug	11am	Holy Communion	St Pauls Church
Sun 21 Aug	11am	<b>Messy Church</b>	St Pauls Church

**Save the Date!**



**Spanish Night**



**10th September 2022**

## From Rev. Caroline King and the Dorchester Abbey Team



I am writing this immediately after the Platinum Jubilee weekend. There was real and obvious affection for the Queen. Sustained by her Christian faith, she has served with grace, dignity and a clear sense of service rooted in duty to God and neighbour. The celebrations led to a real coming together of our communities in a wonderfully inclusive way. My one regret is that I have not yet had opportunity to try the Jubilee trifle (but perhaps there is still time).

For me, a real highlight of the national celebrations was the moment the Queen had tea with Paddington Bear and we learned what she keeps in her handbag - a marmalade sandwich! It was just the most wonderfully innocent joy-filled moment, giving us all a glimpse of the Queen's sense of humour, but it was also a moment of great profundity.



Children's literature often expresses great truths in an accessible and non-threatening way. Paddington Bear is no different. Through the books and the lovely animated films Paddington has much to say to us about the importance of welcome to those who need to hear that they are welcome, loved and a part of our communities.

***'Long ago, people in England sent their children by train with labels around their necks, so they could be taken care of by complete strangers in the countryside where it was safe. They will not have forgotten how to treat strangers.'* Aunt Lucy in Paddington Bear.**

Paddington Bear was an illegal immigrant, who made his home amidst a pretty traditional strait-laced family and as a result enriched their lives in a transformative and wonderful way. Aunt Lucy makes this point beautifully. The quote says something important about our compassion and tolerance as a nation; I'm sure it still rings true today.

I know that our communities will offer a big affirming welcome to those settling here, especially to Ukrainians, Afghans and anyone fleeing their homes. Speaking up for the dispossessed is at the heart of the Bible as is the offering of hospitality. In Matthew 25.40 we read 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' In the Old Testament, God's people are commanded: 'Don't mistreat any foreigners who live in your land. Instead, treat them as well as you treat citizens and love them as much as you love yourself. Remember, you were once foreigners in the land of Egypt. I am the Lord your God' (Leviticus 19.33-34).

The Queen's choice of Paddington seems poignant and profoundly Christian especially because once again many in our villages are opening their hearts and homes to welcome people fleeing Afghanistan and Ukraine. Many more are helping to support them in any way they can. As communities it is wonderful that we can offer welcome and refuge to those fleeing the devastation of war. The Platinum Jubilee has highlighted that modern Britain is a dynamic and diverse place. My hope and prayer is that our communities continue to come together and offer friendship and welcome to all.

### Team Services

**Sun 24<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am at St Laurence, Warborough**

**Sun 28<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am at Dorchester Abbey**

## Events in the Abbey

### Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> July 7.30pm **Berkshire Maestros Choirs Summer Concert**

Join us for a fantastic concert which will include a variety of performances by Berkshire Young Voices, Berkshire Youth Choir, as well as our Music Centre Area Choirs, culminating in a massed piece by all the choirs. Tickets will be available from 27th May from the Berkshire Maestros website <https://berkshiremaestros.org.uk>

Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> July 7pm, Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> July 7pm and Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> July 6pm DADS are back with another outdoor production in the Abbey Cloister Garden! The comedy, **Mansfield Park and Ride** is an irreverent take on Jane Austen's classic novels. Originally written for Eastern Angles, Brendan Murray has reset this new version of his acclaimed play here in South Oxfordshire. It is sure to delight and entertain, whether or not you are a fan of Jane Austen. Will Mrs Bonnet see her daughters wed? Will the dashing Captain Knightly keep his shirt on? Please bring your own low-backed chairs or rugs. Performances will continue in wet weather so please come prepared. Tickets from

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 7pm OSJ perform **Tales from the Wilderness** Prokofiev **Peter and the Wolf**, Saint-Saens **Carnival of the Animals**, Canteloube **Songs of the Auvergne** and Rachmaninov **Vocalise**. Tickets £15 to £25, family concession from [www.osj.org.uk](http://www.osj.org.uk)

### **ABBEY CONCERT MANAGERS REQUIRED ARE YOU INTERESTED?**

The demand for Events to be held in the Abbey has been steadily increasing this year and we need to increase the number of volunteer Concert Managers who play a vital part in helping to make the events run smoothly. This is an opportunity to find out more about what goes on behind the scenes, meeting interesting artists, hearing lovely music and being the welcoming face of the Abbey to the audience. Training will be given. For further details please contact the Events Administrator, Dorchester Abbey, Kate Herbert; [events@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:events@dorchester-abbey.org.uk) and 01865 340007 (Mon, Tues and Fri mornings)



**Oxfordshire Historic  
Churches Trust**

<https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/take-part/>

**Saturday 10 September 2022**

**If you would like to take part and be sponsored to raise money  
for St Paul's Culham and the Oxfordshire Historic Churches  
Trust sign up on the website or contact Andrew Churchill  
Stone for more details 21 High Street 01235 533011**

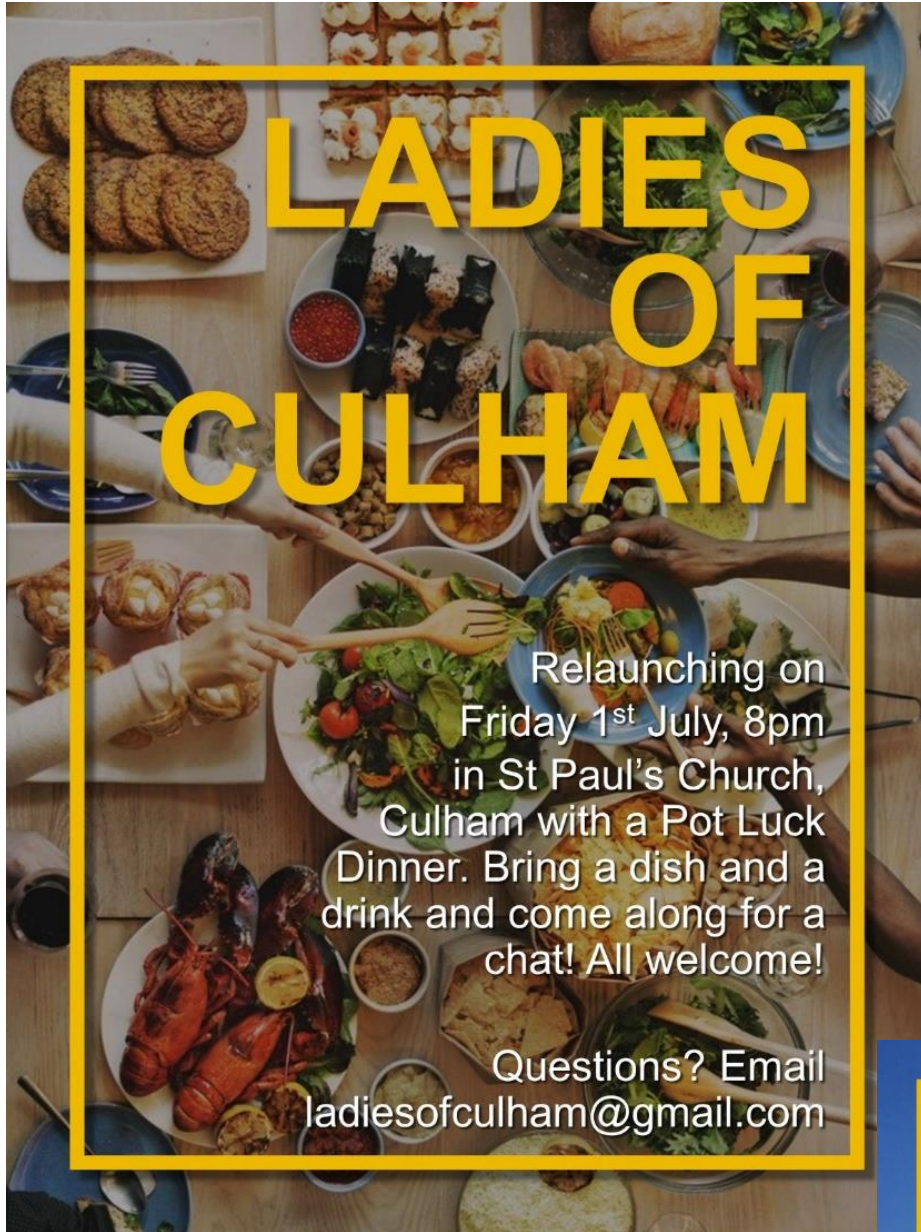
**Or you could sponsor Andrew and family!!**





# Village News

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



## LADIES OF CULHAM

Relaunching on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 8pm in St Paul's Church, Culham with a Pot Luck Dinner. Bring a dish and a drink and come along for a chat! All welcome!

Questions? Email [ladiesofculham@gmail.com](mailto:ladiesofculham@gmail.com)

## Next Dates:

5<sup>th</sup> August – Walk & Talk: walk exploring the history of the local area, taking in a pub on the way! Meet 8pm at St Paul's, Culham

2<sup>nd</sup> Sept – Block Printing Workshop, 8pm at St Paul's, Culham. Cost £5 per person, materials provided, bring an apron/wear old clothes

7<sup>th</sup> Oct – Book Discussion, book to be decided at least 6 weeks before, 8pm at St Paul's Culham

4<sup>th</sup> Nov – Indian Head Massage Workshop, 8pm at St Paul's Culham

2<sup>nd</sup> Dec – Wreath Making & Christmas Crafts. Cost t.b.c. 8pm at St Paul's Culham

6<sup>th</sup> Jan – Vision Board Workshop, 8pm at St Paul's, Culham

Questions? Email [ladiesofculham@gmail.com](mailto:ladiesofculham@gmail.com)



## Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

A great time was had by all attending the Jubilee festivities in Culham – the Friday evening bar was a great success and the rain held off for Sunday's village picnic on The Green. The pudding and picture competitions were well supported with many fabulous entries – you can see the top runners here.

A huge thank you to all the organisers and helpers and of course to everyone who turned out to enjoy some community time!

You can see the wonderful videos which capture the memories on Facebook - St Pauls & Culham Village





# Culham Parish Council (CPC) notes – June 2022

## The Annual Parish Meeting

Held at the church.

Philip Owen was voted in as Chair, and took over from Sam Casey-Rerhaye for the remainder of the meeting. He will remain as chair until the Parish Council elections in 2023

## Public Participation

There is the potential for a group of people to set up community speedwatch group with a mobile camera. Chris Pritchard agreed to lead.

The haul road to the hydro scheme has had soil placed along its central section and has been seeded with grass. It was stated that this is as much as Morrells can do. Some of the stone remaining to the south of the road, close to the Donkey Bridge will be used in the future. The rest has been buried and re-seeded.

The orchard's proposed 25 year lease has been queried by CPC who would like to negotiate the length of the lease to 99 years – Currently only options of a further 25 year lease is being offered. If the orchard was elsewhere, the longevity of the lease could be agreed at 99 years. – John Taylor will find out if another location would in fact come with a longer lease.

Grass cutting – trimming of the bus stops is on the list to be done – North side has been cut. The general village cut has been delayed and is overdue.

The remainder of the meeting was to deal with Parish Council paperwork. A date for the Annual Parish Meeting in May 2023 was agreed for Tuesday 9th May, venue to be agreed.

## Next meeting

Tuesday 12th July 2022 at 19:30 – to be held in the Church

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/>

## Save the Date!



**Spanish Night**

**10th September 2022**

The graphic features a central collage of Spanish-themed icons: a flamenco dancer, a guitar, a bull, a sombrero, a wine barrel, a sailboat, and a guitar. A speech bubble with the word 'HOLA!' is also present. To the right of the text is a small image of the Spanish flag.



AN EVENING OF DELICIOUS  
MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FROM  
DAMASCUS ROSE KITCHEN

# Syrian Night

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SATURDAY 2ND JULY  
4PM

CULHAM VILLAGE GREEN

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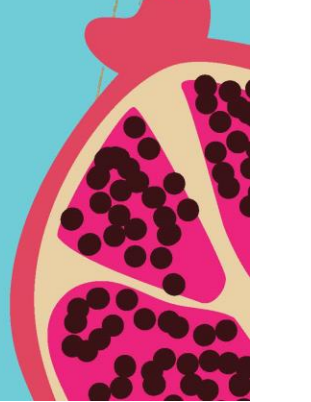
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# District Councillor's Report – Cllr Sam Casey-Rerhaye

## Joint Local Plan 2041

A quick reminder about the Joint Local Plan initial consultation (joint with the Vale council) asking you about the issues that you think the local plan should cover :

<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/planning-and-development/local-plan-and-planning-policies/local-plan-2041/>

The deadline is 23rd June so please have a look at soon as possible – I'm impressed with how the consultation has been set out, little 'council-speak' and lots of graphics making it a simple to understand.

## Councillor Community Grant

Round one of the 2022/23 councillor community grant scheme is now open until midday on 2 September. Grants of up to £5,000 per councillor can be awarded to town and parish councils and 'not for profit' groups. Decisions may be made collectively in wards with multiple councillors. See [southoxon.gov.uk/grants](https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/grants) for more information. Please ask me for details and/or contact the community enablement team via [grants@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:grants@southandvale.gov.uk).

## Proud to celebrate Pride

June is Pride month, and the District Council will be celebrating in several ways. We'll be raising the Pride flag outside Abbey House and Milton Park through the month, to celebrate and show our support for the LGBTQ+ community across the districts.

Cornerstone Arts Centre is celebrating #PrideAtCornerstone with events including a FREE art drop in on Saturday 11 June from 11am to 4pm where everyone can add to the Cornerstone Pride flag. More information and tickets available via [cornerstone-arts.org](https://www.cornerstone-arts.org)

## Boiler Upgrade Scheme opens

As you know, changing how we heat and insulate our homes is a very important priority for me and my fellow councillors, and of course it is particularly important now with huge hikes in the cost of energy. The Leader of the District Council, Cllr David Rouane, has written to the government calling for a strategy for mass-retrofitting of homes – the second letter the Council has written to the government on this. He has said that any plan should empower local authorities and ensure constant and long-term funding to ensure they can make sustained, significant progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from residential properties. You can read the letter in full on the District Council's 'Correspondence' page: <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/about-the-council/official-correspondence/>

There is a new scheme just announced by the government:

The Boiler Upgrade Scheme which is to help improve the energy efficiency of homes, reduce energy bills and cut emissions in the long-term. The scheme is now open for people to apply for the following support when replacing their oil or gas boilers:

- £5,000 off the cost and installation of an air source heat pump
- £5,000 off the cost and installation of a biomass boiler
- £6,000 off the cost and installation of a ground source heat pump

You can find out more about the scheme via the government's website, - look up 'boiler upgrade scheme'

### New countywide food strategy

We have worked in partnership with other Councils, community groups, and Oxfordshire County Council to help them implement a new food strategy. The proposed strategy aims to make food in the county more affordable, resilient and sustainable. You can read about it on the County Council's website:

<https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/food-strategy/>

### Winners of NatureSpace Consistency Award

Good news for the Planning team who have won a Consistency Award in the 2022 NatureSpace Annual Awards! Out of the 50 local authorities participating, the South and Vale joint award is one of only three council awards in England to receive it. The team were awarded for their professional approach to provide information on how to create high-quality habitats for great crested newts when dealing with planning applications and developments

### Great Western Railway Community Investment

Useful to know - Great Western Railway has opened an investment fund that aims to support projects that benefit communities and areas of social need across their network. Community, voluntary and local authorities can find out more and apply up until midnight on 27 June via their website.

To contact me:

[Sam.casey-rerhaye@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Sam.casey-rerhaye@southoxon.gov.uk)

01235 635566

## **Ukrainian Refugees**

For anyone who has been able to offer space in their home to a Ukrainian refugee or family, Charlotte Storrs is offering the opportunity to work with clay to any such refugees in the vicinity who think it may be of help to them. Clay creativity can be therapeutic. Contact Charlotte at 8, The Green or on [pots@charlottestorrs-stoneware.co.uk](mailto:pots@charlottestorrs-stoneware.co.uk)



# County Councillor's Report June 2022– Robin Bennett

## £10.4 million awarded for active travel improvements in Oxfordshire

Cyclists, pedestrians and residents in Oxfordshire will benefit from a £10.4 million government grant to improve walking and cycling infrastructure in the county.

Oxfordshire County Council has been awarded funding from the third phase of the government's active travel fund. The council has previously been awarded grants of £600,000 from phase one and £2.98m from phase two, so this new round is a step change in magnitude.

The funding will support infrastructure improvements across the county including £400K for feasibility work on the Berinsfield-Oxford link and £237,500 for the School Streets programme.

## Celebrating the official opening of our new library service

Our library teams recently celebrated the official opening of the [new Business and Intellectual Property Centre](#). Based on the second floor of our county library in Oxford, the centre supports individuals and entrepreneurs to start and grow their own business. Developing multi-purpose physical spaces for people to access a range of services is part of our innovative new [library and heritage strategy](#).

## Action to tackle climate change in Oxfordshire

Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet has approved plans which could see its own carbon emissions almost halved by 2024/25.

The authority produced 10,774 tonnes of CO2 in 2020/21, but measures outlined in its carbon management plan could see this cut to 6,000 tonnes within three years.

The climate action plan for 2022/23 was also approved, aiming to help Oxfordshire as a county get to 'net zero' ahead of the national target of 2050. Ways in which the council is helping Oxfordshire tackle climate change include:

- Shaping our transport system through the new Local Transport and Connectivity Plan.
- Investing in public transport to bring 159 electric buses to Oxfordshire.
- Installing EV charging points in council car parks for those without off-road parking.
- Piloting a zero emissions zone in Oxford city centre.
- Supporting more than 100 community-led climate action groups, the largest network of its kind in the UK.
- Helping residents recycle and compost 59.5 per cent of all household waste – top place in England for eight years in a row.
- Trialling hydrogen technology to power fire engines.
- Partnering with councils, universities, community, and private sector to create a smart clean energy system through [Local Energy Oxfordshire](#).

Another key tool in the council's plans is the [Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxford](#) (PAZCO) report, which was jointly funded by the council, alongside partners in local government, academia, and business, to outline different potential pathways to achieving a zero-carbon economy in Oxfordshire by 2050, with milestones for 2030.

## HIF1 Didcot and Culham infrastructure project

I'm continuing to participate in the 'cabinet advisory group' for the project. We've made clear we do not want an 'Expressway by stealth' pushing heavy traffic onto our unsuitable country roads, and we don't want to lock in car-dependent sprawl in new developments. We are also looking at design improvements to cut the carbon and other pollution impacts of the project, and making sure that walking and cycling routes connect and link to other forms of transport. What change we can actually secure, given how far along the project is, remains to be seen.

[Robin.bennett@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Robin.bennett@Oxfordshire.gov.uk)



# Other News



NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

## Clifton Hampden & Burcot Tennis Club

Email: [info@chbtc.co.uk](mailto:info@chbtc.co.uk)  
Bookings: [www.chbtc.co.uk](http://www.chbtc.co.uk)



Your tennis club welcomes residents from Clifton Hampden & Burcot, as well as being open to parents, staff & children from Clifton Hampden Primary School and residents of Long & Little Wittenham and Culham. We welcome all levels, whether you play competitively, occasionally or with visiting friends.

**Family membership £40** with unlimited guests £55

**Single membership £30** with unlimited guests £45

The season runs from 1 May to 30 April. To join now & access the Club's court, complete the form on [www.chbtc.co.uk](http://www.chbtc.co.uk)



**TENNIS TOURNAMENT – JULY**

Please also email us to submit interest in playing in a tournament. You are not bound by submitting your interest, it simply helps us prepare for the event. Emails will be sent with details prior to the event.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED**

The club is run by volunteers. We need your help! if you'd like to join our friendly committee or can offer help once a year at the social or on tournament day. If you'd like to join the team or find out more, email us at [info@chbtc.co.uk](mailto:info@chbtc.co.uk)

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ADC, one of the oldest drama clubs in the country, has been providing drama classes for young people for over 35 years. **Leon Witcomb** will be running the drama classes every Saturday during term times.

### Classes will include:

A combination of drama games, improvisation and scene work. A fun way to make new friends and start to learn the fundamentals of theatre and performance.

The classes will focus on building drama skills including voice, movement, action, objective, subtext and characterisation. In-depth study of plays and playwrights supports learning, particularly for those enrolled in GCSE Drama.

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

## SAY YES . . .

- to friendship, fun and entertainment

We've lots planned for summer and onwards. In July we'll have fun with

'Alpacas and a world of fabulous fluff'

Our 'Queen for a Day' BBQ for members is in August

In September we have 'The RNLI - Past and Present'

Lots to look forward to - come and see!

We meet every third Tuesday monthly in the  
River Room, Sutton Courtenay at 7.30 pm

For details contact our Secretary on 847612





## Adwell Vintage Vehicle Show

**Sunday, 10 July 2022** from 12 midday to 5 pm. The postcode for the show is OX9 7DQ. The show is kindly sponsored by JSQ Farm Enterprises Ltd and promises to be great fun! If you will have very interesting cars, motorbikes, bicycles and other machinery which you will want to show off around the lakes at Adwell, come along!. Or come to see what is on display, and the people who own them!

All proceeds from the Show will go to the Footsteps Centre in Dorchester-on-Thames. Footsteps provides remarkable therapy for children with neurological conditions

<https://www.adwellestate.com/adwell-vintage-vehicle-show> for more information and to buy tickets.

You are welcome to turn up at the gate but it would be helpful, in particular if you are exhibiting, if you booked through the Ticketsource website.

## 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 June 2022 issue of the Mouthpiece by May 15<sup>th</sup> to:

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

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

[stuart.morris@ukaea.uk](mailto:stuart.morris@ukaea.uk) 01235 464904



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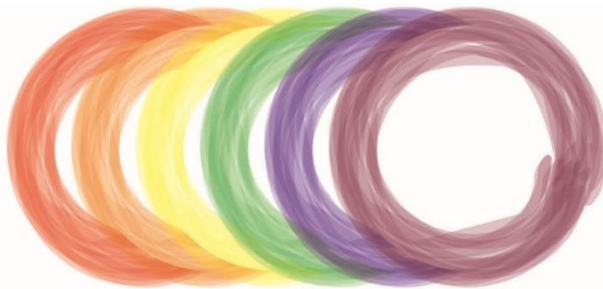
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# WHO IS WHO IN CULHAM?

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