


The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter
November 2023



Dates for your Diary

Sun 29 Oct	10.30am	The Bridge Group invite to croissants & coffee	St Paul's Church
Sun 5 Nov	11am	Holy Communion	St Paul's Church
Wed 8 Nov	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	St Paul's Church
Sat 11 Nov	10am-4pm	Pottery Taster Session	8 The Green
Sun 12 Nov	4pm	Remembrance Service	St Paul's Church
Sat 25 Nov	3pm	Lego Club 	St Paul's/The Green
Tues 31 Oct	Dusk onwards	Hallowe'en Trick or (Tr)Eat	Around the Village
Fri 1 Dec	8pm	Ladies of Culham- Wreath making	St Paul's Church – check WhatsApp group for details

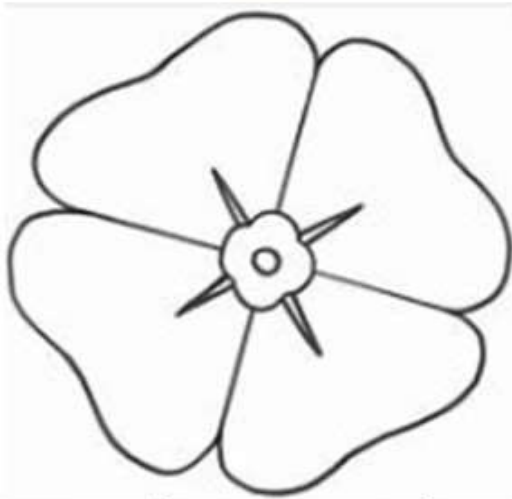


Culham Kids

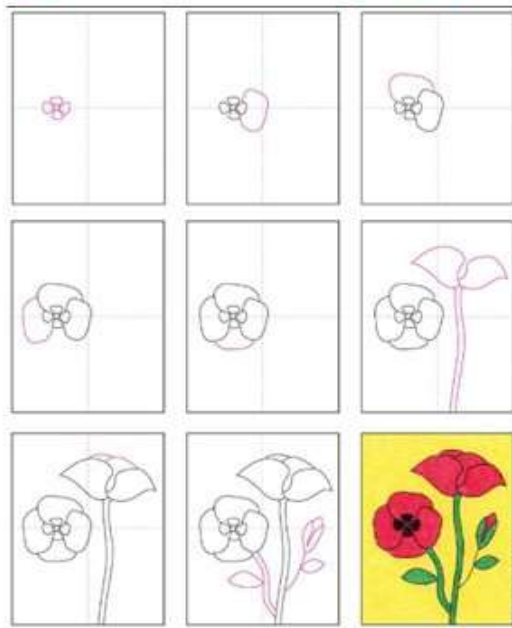


Take a moment on Remembrance Day to think of all those who have died in wars.

Talk as a family about why we have this day. If you need resources to look into this further and understand it more, the Royal British Legion has some great resources on its website.



Remembrance Day is also a good chance for us to think about what we're grateful for. Why not write or draw what you are grateful for in this poppy. ←



Would you like to create a kids page in the Mouthpiece too or have any ideas for content to include? Then message Laura Cooper – laura@tollgatetherapies.co.uk

Important dates – Pottery Taster Session with Charlotte Storrs – book via Jo and Lego Club – Sat 25th Nov. See you next month!

Editor: Thank you, Laura and Monty!

Talking point by Revd Jennifer Morton



Someone once said to me that November was a difficult month for her. All the important anniversaries in her life seemed to be during this month. The happy and sad memories, the poignant and with that a sense of loss. As we get older I am sure that we all have times of the year when special memories are sharper.

However, November is also a particular time of the year for remembering within our communities. First at the beginning of the month our church communities remember the lives of the many saints that have been examples of faith throughout the centuries. Next there is the opportunity to remember those more personal to us whom we have lost, especially those who have died recently but not exclusively. Many of our churches hold special services when we can name our loved ones and light a candle. Then, of course, there is the national remembrance of those who lost their lives serving their country during, not only two world wars, but also in conflicts since.

Our memories are what make us who we are both as individuals and as communities. It is important that we have the opportunities to share these, not only our personal experiences but also national and international events that require us to process the effect these have on all our lives. Can we learn from these experiences? From the examples we are set?

Without diminishing loss to the families and the communities affected, surely we hope that conflicts will not be part of our world in the future. How we hope that leaders of the world will understand that bullying and violence do not solve whatever issues they have.

The end of November brings to a close the Churches year. During these few weeks before once again we begin preparations for Christmas we get a glimpse of what our world should look like when it is fully renewed, 'a new heaven and a new earth'. We are promised a better more peaceful way.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

Yes, November can be a month for remembering past experiences and the special people who have played an important part in our lives, however today is always an opportunity to make new memories for the future.

Team Services- 26th November 10.30am- Warborough

Events in the Abbey

St Birinus Festival 3rd and 4th Nov- Single concert ticket £30.00 / Festival Ticket £80.00
<https://thedaveyconsort.co.uk/collections/st-birinus-festival-2023>

Fri 3rd Nov- 7pm- 9.15pm- The Davey Consort open the Festival with a Lecture Recital William Byrd: Faith and Music in Elizabethan England. In addition to the beautifully moving music we are honoured to have the company of Richard Rex,

Professor of Reformation History at the Faculty of Divinity of the University of Cambridge, to guide us through the career of William Byrd which itself lights the landscape of Reformation history.

Sat 4th Nov- 1pm – 3pm Royal Academy of Music current students playing Mozart chamber music. The programme will include Mozart Wind Quintet K452 for Piano & Winds (joined by Ryan Wigglesworth), Britten Phantasy Quartet (solo oboe Ewan Millar) and Mozart Piano Concerto No.12 in A major with string quartet K414 (solo piano Bocheng Wang).

Sat 4th Nov- 7pm – 9.30pm Composer-conductor Ryan Wigglesworth and Sophie Bevan MBE. recognised as one of the leading lyric sopranos of her generation The evening will be a foretaste of their forthcoming Wigmore Hall appearance later in November with music by Franz Schubert, Johanna Muller-Hermann, and Gustav Mahler.

Sat 11th Nov- 8pm-9.30pm Rebecca Caine- Dividing Day- Join soprano Rebecca Caine, for a journey of self-discovery with help from writers including Bernstein, Bucchino, Guettel, La Chiusa, Sondheim, Weill and Yeston. With Nathan Martin at the piano. Tickets £25/ £17.50 concessions. <https://www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk/event/rebecca-caine-dividing-day/>

Sat 18th Nov- 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm OSJ- Tchaikovsky and Mendelssohn The wild beauty of mountains provides the inspiration for tonight's concert. Stollery's 2014 overture, in its first English performance. evoking the majesty of the Grampians, sits alongside the rolling romance of Mendelssohn's 'Scottish' Symphony. Jan Schmolck performs Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, composed in 1878 during a stay amidst the breath-taking Swiss Alps. Free tickets available for NHS workers and for the disabled. Please email admin@osj.org.uk. Tickets £5 to £30 from www.osj.org.uk

Sat 25th Nov- 7.30pm- 9.30pm Benson Choral Society- Bach's Mass in B Minor. We will be accompanied by the celebrated Baroque orchestra – Instruments of Time and Truth. Tickets £20 (reserved) £17 Unreserved from www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk

Sun 26th Nov- 3pm-4.30pm St John's Ambulance Carol Service and Installation of County Chaplain. Retiring collection

Thu 30th Nov- 11.30am-12.30pm and 2pm-3pm Moving Music- Concert for people living with dementia and their family, friends and carers. A Christmassy programme including instrumental performances by Christopher & Celia Redgate and sing-along songs led by Hannah Davey. £5 incl. refreshments half an hour before the performances, carers come free Reserve you places in advance and pay on the door 01865 215305 movingmusicconcerts@gmail.com



REFLECTION & REMEMBRANCE

ST PAULS. CULHAM

SUNDAY 12TH
NOVEMBER 4PM



Village News

Village website: www.culhamvillage.org.uk

Culham Parish Council website: www.culham-pc.org.uk

Ladies of Culham Next Dates:

1st December - wreath making

5th January - shared pot luck dinner

2nd February - still life drawing

1st March - graphology / hand writing analysis

5th April - tea tasting and history

3rd May - Abstract painting

We're really looking forward to our events in 2024, thanks to everyone who's offered to run a session for us. From the Admin Team

To be added onto the LoC WhatsApp group, or any questions, please email us

Email ladiesofculham@gmail.com

POTTERY TASTER SESSION

for ages
4-7

Join potter Charlotte Storrs to make beautiful clay Christmas decorations, which Charlotte will then fire and glaze in time for Christmas.

Pottery sessions must be booked. Please text Jo for this on 07770670153

FREE

10am - 4pm
Sat 11 Nov
8 The Green,
Culham





THE CULHAM COOKBOOK

Contribute a recipe to the Culham
cookbook!

Please email recipes to:
jo.oughtred@hotmail.co.uk



or post/drop them off to:
12 The Green



Please submit
recipes by
12th November
to enable printing
before Christmas



Charlotte Storrs Stoneware



Greenhouse Gallery Open

1 November to 22 December 2023

Open Fridays 11am to 4pm. Other days by appointment

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www.charlottestorrs-stoneware.co.uk

Other News



SUTTON COURTENAY WI



November

History of Hairdressing – presentation/talk

Lunch a month – Ardington

Christmas Market/shopping – Gloucester Quays

We always welcome new members

We meet every third Tuesday monthly in the
River Room, All Saints Church, Sutton Courtenay at

7.30 pm

Contact us at ofwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

01869 331081



RSPB Vale of White Horse Local Group

Interested in birds and birdwatching? The RSPB Vale of White Horse Local Group holds monthly talks from September to May at the River Room (by the Church), Sutton Courtenay and / or via Zoom in the darker months, on Mondays starting at 7.30 pm and finishing by 10pm. We also meet monthly at local birdwatching sites.

We welcome new members - membership is £15 for the season (whether or not you are an RSPB member) and includes a quarterly e-Newsletter and the programme of talks and trips. Non-members are also welcome to attend individual talks for a fee of £5. You can join at an in-person meeting or using the form on our website (under "Contacts"), which also includes details of our full programme: www.rspb-vwh.org.uk

Our next talks are:

20 November 2023 (hybrid - attend in person at the River Room or via Zoom): David Boag: The World of a Wildlife Photographer

David is an author and wildlife photographer who regularly lectures to groups and on cruise ships, and has spoken at RSPB and British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) conferences. His website is www.NaturalFocus.co.uk. At this meeting David will also judge the photo competition; the trophy will be awarded at the River Room.

18 December 2023 (Zoom only): Nicholas Watts: Farming and Wildlife

Nicholas has farmed at Vine House Farm since 1964. He was awarded an MBE for services to farming and conservation in 2006, and regularly collaborates with RSPB and BTO on conservation projects. The farm supplies bird seed to conservation organisations including the Wildlife Trusts.

Our next trip is:

26th November 2023: Farmoor, meet 10am on site

In October we welcomed Michael Leach to the River Room, who gave us a talk based on his book "The Complete Owl". Michael covered barn owls, tawny owls, little owls and cat owls, discussing the specialised techniques that help them hunt. He also dispelled some owl myths, and revealed what an owl's life is really like. A highlight was the dramatic high speed photographs of owls in flight. Also in October we met at Little Wittenham, walking from Days Lock we looked for birds along the River Thames and in the scrapes created by the Earth Trust as part of the "River of Life" project.



Matrix Arts Centre 15 - 17 The Nursery
Sutton Courtenay
OX14 4UA
01235 847264
www.matrixartscentre.org.uk
Registered charity no: 1022336

Matrix Arts Centre in Sutton Courtenay are excited to announce their next Music at Matrix concert series event - an exciting opportunity to hear a superb string quartet in the intimate setting of their hall.



On **Sunday 19 November at 4 - 5pm**, String quartet OXUS will present a programme exploring the musical "intermezzo", including Caroline Shaw's beautiful and innovative Entr'acte, as well as music by Haydn, Schubert and the Danish String Quartet.

An OXUS audience can always expect to be entertained, engaged and intrigued. The performers will share insights into each piece they perform in this fascinating programme of musical interludes.

As a guide, this concert is designed for adult concert-goers and children 7 years +. Please join them for tea and cakes afterwards in their lovely reception area.

Tickets are £15 / £7 and available online with a booking fee or directly from the Matrix Arts Centre office without a booking fee (cash).

**ABINGDON
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DRAMA
CLASSES**

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“Yes, and.....”

As every drama student knows “Yes and....” is one of the famous rules of “improv” or improvisation and taught in drama classes throughout the world. “Yes and...” means develop and keep the scene going!

Improvisational techniques are used extensively to train actors for stage, film and television and can be an important part of the rehearsal process and it is an integral part of **Abingdon Drama Club’s junior drama classes** curriculum - classes that have been going for over 40 years.

These classes produce amazing young actors with some even going on to perform in the West End theatre and on TV and in mainstream films. We even have ex pupils becoming drama teachers!

The classes offer young aspiring actors a chance to hone their acting skills in a fun, nurturing environment while meeting other young people from a variety of local schools. This nurturing and empathetic learning space, part of ADC’s community ethos, is further enhanced by the fact that their present teacher, Leon Witcomb, (who had his own one man show at the Edinburgh Fringe this year), was once one of the pupils!

Class One - 9-12 years & Class Two - 13-16 years 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, devising scenes and writing original work. The children are able to develop and build essential vocal and physical skills and master the essentials of acting including objective, subtext and characterisation. In-depth study of plays and playwrights supports learning, particularly for those enrolled in GCSE Drama.

“Half the cost, twice the fun!”

For more information on ADC’s junior drama classes and to enrol please go to –

abingdondramaclubjuniors@gmail.com

www.abingdon-drama-club.com



Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum

New Oxfordshire Gallantry Board to commemorate the county's military and civilian heroes

- New permanent exhibition opening 22 October 2023
- Commemorates people of Oxfordshire awarded the country's highest awards for gallantry
- Stories of heroism from the Victorian era to the last decade told

On 22 October 2023 Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum (SOFO) in Woodstock will unveil a new display to celebrate some of the county's most remarkable heroes - the 31 men who have been awarded the Victoria Cross, the George Cross, or the Edward and Albert medals that preceded its institution.

The Victoria Cross was instituted by the Queen in 1856 to recognise exceptional acts of valour in the presence of the enemy, and was open to all ranks of the military.

All those recognised on the museum's board are individuals who have close and enduring links to Oxfordshire.

10 Oxfordshire men were awarded the VC prior to 1914, in campaigns ranging from the Crimean War to the Boer War.

6 more VCs were awarded to county men during the Great War.

The George Cross and the George Medal were both instituted in September 1940 by King George VI for "acts of the greatest heroism or of the most conspicuous courage in circumstances of the most extreme danger". It would supersede the Empire Gallantry Medal, and by 1971, replace the Albert and Edward Medals. The Albert Medal was instituted in 1866, awarded for saving lives at sea, while the Edward Medal was instituted in 1907. Originally awarded solely for bravery amongst miners and quarrymen, it was extended to farm and industrial workers.

The county's Second World War Victoria Cross and George Cross recipients cover both civilian acts of bravery and all branches of the armed forces, with three GCs awarded to men in the Royal Navy. Henry James Miller, of Hanborough, died whilst helping to evacuate the crew from his submarine HMS Unity in April 1940 after a night collision with a freighter in the North Sea.

Since the end of the war, five more GCs have been awarded to Oxfordshire men - four of these were based at different times at Vauxhall Barracks in Didcot, the home of the Army's EOD regiment.

This new board in the SOFO museum tells of those Oxfordshire people whose valour on the battlefield, and gallantry in action were formally recognised by their awards - civilians and soldiers alike.

Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock, OX20 1SN

www.sof.org.uk

frontofhouse@sofo.org.uk

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 December 2023 issue of the Mouthpiece by **November 15th** to: generalmouthpiece@gmail.com

Can you help?

There is a vacancy at **The Mouthpiece** for someone to look after our advertising!

The role is not arduous – it primarily involves keeping an eye on emails to advermouthpiece@gmail.com and sending invoices to our Advertisers once a year. Please contact Anne or Gordon if you can help (see Who's Who on back page for details).

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WHO IS WHO IN CULHAM?

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Sam Casey-Rerhaye	s.caseyrerhaye@culham-pc.gov.uk	3 The Burycroft, Culham	01235 635566
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Ordained Local Minister	Revd. David Haylett	familyhaylett@yahoo.com	01865 407382
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Churchwarden:	vacancy	stpaulsculham@gmail.com	
Hon. Secretary:	Ruth Ward	stpaulsculham@gmail.com 5 Thame Lane, Culham	
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Laura Cooper	ladiesofculham@gmail.com	Also Jenny Williams, Jo Oughtred	
POLICE			
Neighbourhood Policing Team		Non-emergency Phone Number	101
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