

The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter

June 2024



Dates for your Diary

Sun 2 June	11am	Holy Communion	St Paul's Church
Fri 7 June	8pm	Ladies Of Culham – Wine Tasting	St Paul's Church
Sun 9 June	11am	Holy Communion	St Paul's Church
Wed 12 June	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	St Pauls Church
Wed 12 June	7.15pm-8pm	Thames Water Presentation about Planned New Reservoir	St Paul's Church
Sun 16 June	11am	Family Service	St Paul's Church

Culham Kids

Welcome to June everyone! As we type this, we're having some wonderful weather in May, so we hope it continues and you are enjoying some sunshine and getting outside in nature.



We have an exciting event happening at the start of July – a touring theatre group is performing Alice in Wonderland in the village and we're having a Culham Summer Tea Party in the afternoon before the performance to celebrate – we hope you can join us.

Use the pictures to help you complete the Alice in Wonderland-themed crossword puzzle.



Design your own bunting!



You could colour everything in when you've finished!

Important dates – Culham Summer Tea Party and touring theatre group performing Alice in Wonderland – Saturday 6th July.
Have fun colouring this page!

Talking point by Teresa Stewart-Sykes

Here comes the sun! Finally, after what seems like an endlessly wet winter and spring, the sunshine and warm temperatures have arrived! Everything in the Vicarage garden is growing like crazy, especially the lawn, my poor lawnmower is struggling to cope! There is a constant stream of birds fluttering about our birdfeeder and at the Queensford Lakes there is an abundance of insects being chased by the Housemartins. What a wonderful flourishing of creation!

Sadly however, one only has to turn to the news channels to find that this is not the whole story of nature's state of health. The EU Copernicus Climate Service reported recently that sea temperatures had broken records on every single day of the past year- caused by the disastrous combination of El Nino and the continued production of planet warming gases. Not only is the diversity of the oceans under threat but also the diversity of wildlife and insects in our gardens and on our farms. At the Vicarage we are very much enjoying the new season of Clarkson's Farm, which in the second episode shows even the petrol head Jeremy Clarkson recognising the threat to our ecosystems and implementing regenerative farming practices on his Diddlysquat farm!

In Psalm 19 we read 'The heavens proclaim the glory of God', and every time I step into the glorious Oxfordshire countryside, whether it be along the banks of the Thames or up on the Clumps, I experience afresh the awesome presence of God. Christians have campaigned for centuries to protect and safeguard creation, think of St Francis the first eco warrior! So, I am not surprised to see that Christian groups are supporting the 'Restore Nature Now' march in London on 22nd June (go to www.restorenaturenow.com for more information). This is a coalition groups from a diversity of backgrounds including the National Trust, the RSPB, and the WWF. I'm looking forward to what promises to be an inspiring and hopeful day.

I pray that as you read this you are sitting in your garden, sipping a cup of tea (or something cooler and more alcoholic maybe!), and enjoying all the sights and sounds of nature as it grows and flourishes around you. May you be blessed in the glory of Creation and inspired to do your bit to preserve the diversity and beauty of the natural world.

Events in the Abbey

Sat 8th June - 7pm- 9.30pm Brahms and Glazunov OSJ- Famously described as 'Beethoven's Tenth', Brahms' masterful first symphony took him at least 14 years to write. This powerful work sits alongside two pieces from the Russian composer Alexander Glazunov, including Autumn from his ballet The Seasons. Gifted young performer Elodie Chousmer-Howelles makes her debut with the orchestra, showcasing the technical brilliance required for Glazunov's dazzling Violin Concerto.

Free tickets available for NHS workers and for the disabled. Please email admin@osj.org.uk. Tickets £6 to £35 from www.osj.org.uk

Sat 15th June- 7.30pm- 9.30pm- Joseph Haydn- The Creation Benson Choral Society Our Summer concert will be a performance of Haydn's joyous and very popular work, The Creation. It will be directed by our longtime friend and guest conductor, Richard Laing accompanied by West Forest Sinfonia. Tickets- £20 reserved, £17 unreserved from www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk

TEAM EVENTS

Sun 23rd June 10.30am- Ordination Service- Dorchester Abbey

30th June 10.30am- Team Service- Drayton St Leonard

Village News

Village website: www.culhamvillage.org.uk

Ladies of Culham Next Dates:

7th June – wine tasting

5th July – cocktails

2nd August – pub walk and social

6th September – book club

4th October – Knitting and crochet

1st November – board games

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

Culham Village Community WhatsApp Group

Please scan the QR code below to join now!



To engage with your local community, please join the '**Culham Village Community**' WhatsApp group. To scan the QR code above simply open up your 'photo' app and hover it over the QR code and join the relevant group that interests you.

Culham Chat - The main general group for All Culham Residents

Ladies of Culham - The Ladies of Culham group runs fun monthly meet up's the first Friday of each month (usually held in St. Pauls Church)

Culham families & friends - This local group is popular with families in the village

Cats & Dogs - This group is for all cat and dog owners, particularly useful if you need someone to help cat or dog sit/feed whilst you're away.

Over time there may be more groups added and/or the names of the groups may change slightly but we hope that this group will be a great resource for all local information big or small.

SAVE CULHAM GREEN BELT ANNUAL REPORT / MAY 2024

Report prepared by Caroline Baird www.saveculhamgreenbelt.org (website rather out of date)

There have not been regular meetings of the SCGB committee since the July 2020 Examination in Public of South Oxfordshire District Council's (SODC) Local Plan 2035 and its adoption in December 2020. There have, however, been several recent events which have needed input from SCGB or some of its members:

1. **Project Swift / Activity Centre Appeal / August 2023**

This was a planning application for a very large outdoor activity centre and even the revised plans covered 53.14 ha of Green Belt and included considerable buildings for indoor activity, considered inappropriate development, and huge amounts of hard standing for parking, just across the road from the Thame Lane houses, for the large visitor numbers expected from all over the district and beyond. SODC had refused planning permission several times, but the owners submitted an appeal to the Secretary of State and Inspector Jonathan Edwards was appointed to conduct the appeal and site visit. Several members of Culham village and Caroline Baird for SCGB/Culham Parish Council and the appeal was dismissed on the grounds that Very Special Circumstances did not exist to justify the development in Green Belt.

2. **Joint Local Plan 2041**

The committee held an emergency meeting on 19 Feb 2024 to discuss its advice to Culham Parish Council and local residents regarding the consultation on the Regulation 18 version of the newly emerging Joint Local Plan 2041 (JLP41) being drawn up by SODC and the Vale of White Horse (VWH)

DC. Every Local Authority is required by Government to produce a Local Plan which sets out the development plans for its area (housing, employment, infrastructure) and its policies for protecting the environment, energy efficiency etc and much more. A Local Plan has to follow the guidance and Standard Method of calculating housing need laid out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) , which was updated in December 2023 when the Secretary of State, Michael Gove, made it clear that *“Local Authorities have the comfort of knowing that they need not re-draw the green belt or sacrifice protected landscapes to meet housing numbers”*. Gove also coined the phrase, “BIDEN principles” for the five factors behind new development: Beauty, Infrastructure, Democracy, Environment and Neighbourhood.

The Committee discussed the key policies in the JLP41 and its responses to the consultation survey (closing date 26 Feb 2024). A one-page document was prepared, printed and hand-delivered to all households. It urged residents to respond and explained that the housing numbers proposed by the councils created a buffer, or excess of nearly 5000 houses in the SODC area alone. Our strong view was (and still is) that the proposed massive strategic site adjacent to Culham Campus (formerly Culham Science Centre) of 3500 houses – a settlement 20 times the size the parish of Culham (176 houses) – should be jettisoned, with the majority of the land returned to Green Belt to focus on a much smaller, more proportional and sustainable development of c 700-800 in the ‘brownfield’ land currently Culham No 1 site.

Apparently, the consultation attracted a very high number of submissions – approximately 1300, so thank you to all those in Culham who responded. This feedback is now being analysed by the councils to inform the Regulation 19 version due for consultation in autumn 2024.

3. HIF Public Inquiry

The HIF1 Scheme (so called as it is partly funded by a grant secured from the national Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF)). It is an Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) proposal for a major link road between the A34 at Milton interchange and the Golden Balls roundabout, just south of Nuneham Courtenay, with a ‘Science Bridge’ over the main rail line, a viaduct over the River Thames onto the A415 at Culham at a large new roundabout very near to the Europa School, west of Zouch Farm – 30 metres west of the existing track down to the silo – with an intermediate roundabout coming off at Sutton Courtenay and a flyover over the railways sidings at Appleford. It is a huge and highly controversial project, by far the largest ever undertaken by OCC.

The scheme is opposed by nearly all the local parishes and, to pool resources and ideas and raise funds to commission reports and expert analysis, as well as legal assistance, a Neighbouring Parish Council Joint Committee (NPC-JC) was established with representatives from Appleford, Clifton Hampden, Culham, Sutton Courtenay & Nuneham Courtenay parish councils. The roads and bridges will cause an increase in noise, air pollution, and increased traffic coming from the A34 and Didcot around and through the local villages. The constructions will, without doubt, be a visual intrusion on our rural landscape. However, because the road will enable SODC and VWHDC to bring forward plans to build many thousands of new houses around Didcot, Culham and Berinsfield, the Councils have been determined to support HIF despite the harm it will cause.

OCC were both the Applicant and the local authority body determining the application and were therefore expected to follow procedures with diligence and transparency. The Planning and Regulation Committee met over two days 17/18 July 2023 and 25 speakers, representing six parish councils spoke against the proposal, including Sam Casey-Rerhaye and Caroline Baird for Culham. In a major win for the campaigners the application was unequivocally REFUSED, 7-2. The refusal reflected public responses to the consultations which were overwhelmingly objections.

The joy was short lived, however, as the required Decision Notice was never issued and OCC claimed that the application still live/undecided. In the hiatus, the UK Atomic Energy Authority (i.e. Culham Science Centre’s landlord) contacted the Secretary of State, Michael Gove, who ‘called in’ the application for his own determination.

The NPC-JC applied for Rule 6 status, to be able to speak and cross-examine at a formal Public Inquiry. The NPC-JC and its experts had to prepare detailed Statements of Case, deliver speeches and be cross examined by the Kings Counsels (KCs) of OCC, SODC and VWHDC and also a KC acting for UKAEA. The inquiry, led by Inspector Lesley Coffey, was held at Bee House in Milton Park and was available to watch live on YouTube. It opened on 20th February 2024 and has just finished (on 9th May). The NPC-JC fielded expert witnesses on Landscape and Green Belt, Planning, Delivery and Construction Risks, Carbon and Costs, Transport modelling, Conservation, Health, and Local impacts. Caroline Baird and Peter Kirby gave speeches early in the Inquiry and Sam Casey-Rerhaye spoke as an expert witness on Local Impacts. SCGB would like to thank all those volunteers who prepared detailed proofs of evidence and were cross examined before the Inspector – Dr Angela Jones, Chris Hancock, Ng Chien Xen, Russell Harman, and Sam Casey-Rerhaye, as well as Richard Tamplin (a former Inspector himself and Professor Ayres, former professor of Conservation at Oxford University). Also Alan James who was a paid professional. The advocate for the NPC-JC and another likeminded group of Transport planning experts, POETS, was David Woolley, who gave the closing statement on 23rd April.

All documents are still available to view online at: <https://gateleyhamer-pi.com/en-gb/didcot-garden-town/inquiry-documents/>

The inspector will now write her report and make a recommendation to the Secretaries of State (Michael Gove – Housing; and Mark Harper - Transport). When they make a decision, the NPC-JC will be informed. This could take 3-6 months. If the scheme is approved, OCC will have to complete the detailed design and appoint contractors as part of a tender process. This along with rampant inflation in the construction sector will crystallise the question of funding adequacy although, astonishingly, and despite their assertions that the costs of the scheme were covered, the NPC-JC discovered that even during the Inquiry, OCC were negotiating with Homes England for additional funding and, in an indication as to just how much Government want this scheme to proceed, secured a further £36.4 million, bringing the HIF grant to £276 million. OCC will still have to borrow £30 million, and the total budget, including S106 developer contributions, is likely to be nearly £400 million. OCC has also secured an extension to the funding delivery period to March 2028.

If the scheme is approved, the impact on Culham will be huge even during the construction process. It will involve a large 'Abingdon roundabout' on the A415, close to the Europa School; another roundabout by Culham No 1 site at which point the A415 as it currently is will be closed to all but walkers and cyclists, with traffic diverted up a new Clifton Hampden bypass to a new junction, then across a field to rejoin the existing A415 before the Turnpike fuel station. Here is a map to illustrate:

Many local rights of way will be diverted or closed, and the HIF roads will cross the Thames Path and Route 5 national cycle path. The bridge over the Thames and the road which will be raised, or on an embankment or it will flood, bringing noise attrition and more traffic emissions to the Europa playing fields.

Here are some images to illustrate the bridge and roundabouts:

Viaduct over Thames:



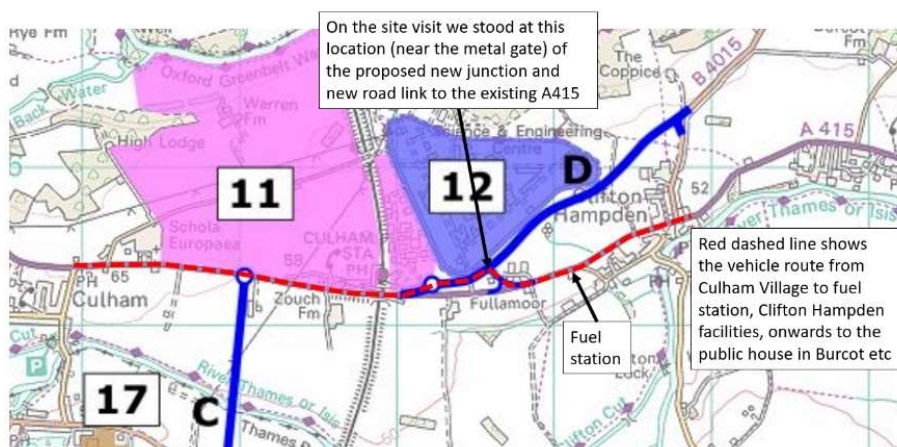
'Abingdon roundabout' on A415 near Europa School



Roundabout with spurs to Culham No 1 site, Culham Campus, and Clifton Hampden bypass/A415 diversion:



Annotated map showing just how close it comes to Culham village and the Europa School, and showing where the A415 will be blocked off and where it rejoins the existing road before the fuel station at Clifton Hampden. The pink area marked 11 is that of the proposed housing development; the blue area marked 12 is the Culham Campus site.



Brief Notes of the Culham Annual Community Meeting held in St Paul's on Wednesday 15 May 2024

- Chris Pritchard, Chair, introduced himself and Councillors and Clerk.
- A Parish Councillor is an unpaid role. The Parish Council can provide services through the precept which is a charge within council tax funding community services, such as grounds maintenance.
- Work carried out by the PC 2023-24:
- Neighbourhood plan - referendum turnout 44.8%
- Traffic/road safety - gates installed at entrance to village along with bollards; 20mph zone to be implemented following input from the community led plan. Culham crossing - project underway for a crossing at Tollgate Road by A415.
- Community space/assets- playground installed (thanks to Antoinette); defibrillator purchased and awaiting installation to external wall of nursery.
- Community Orchard - negotiations with Morrells Holdings. Solicitors' advice sought.
- Purchase of The Green - negotiations and transfer of ownership with Solicitors.
- Memorial trees have been planted after gaining grant funding.
- Grass cutting schedule - will be uploaded to the PC website.
- Steps to Cemetery - project to look into improving access.
- Planning - Waggon and Horses; Project Swift - High Lodge Farm (planning not granted); Culham Science Centre - many applications and most recent - battery storage.
- Joint Local Plan 2041 - consultation and CB worked hard to submit comments agreed by PC.
- HIF1 planning inquiry; Abingdon Reservoir - presentation from Thames Water arranged for June meeting.
- District Councillor confirmed that 40% of new housing approved by SODC would be affordable housing.



Reservoir Update

Thames Water is working closely with other water companies in the southeast to protect future water supplies for millions of people. Population growth and hotter, drier summers place additional pressure on our water resources, so to keep the taps running, we must invest in new infrastructure.

A new reservoir in Oxfordshire would help to safeguard millions of households from the risk of drought, providing a sustainable water supply for generations to come.

Our ambition for the reservoir is to create a natural, tranquil space which will be sensitively landscaped to blend with the surrounding countryside. We want to work with local communities to ensure we create new green spaces that everyone can enjoy. You can find out more about our current proposals at www.thames-sro.co.uk/sesro.

We'll be holding a series of community information events this summer, where you'll be able to find out more about our plans. Do look out for updates on the events page of our website www.thames-sro.co.uk/events. This is a great opportunity to meet the team and discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

Thames Water have been asked by the Parish Council to make a presentation at the next Parish Council meeting with details as following:

THAMES WATER PLANNED NEW RESERVOIR

*****PLEASE COME TO A PRESENTATION by Thames Water at the Parish Council Meeting on Wed 12th June / 7.15pm-8pm, St Paul's Church, Culham *****

The Parish Council have asked Thames Water to give a presentation and Q & A about the proposals for a giant reservoir in the Steventon area, ahead of the two rounds of public consultation in Summer 2024 and Summer 2025.

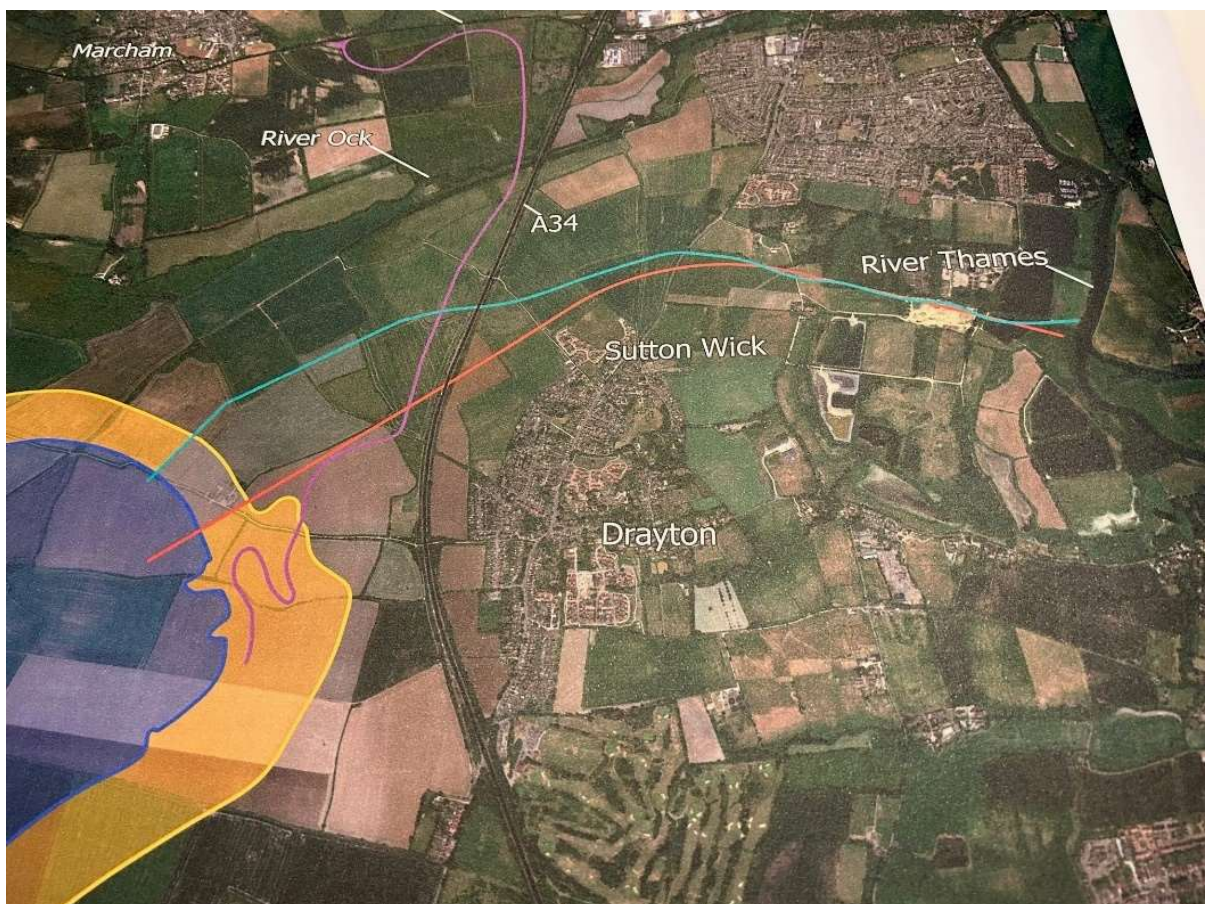
The proposed reservoir would cover 6 square miles (of land currently owned by c. 170 landowners). It will involve completely re-routing the Hanney Road and the construction of a new access road to it from the A415 between Marcham and the A34.

There will also be construction work that affects Culham because we have recently learnt that there is to be an intake/outfall from the River Thames AT CULHAM.

From what could be ascertained at the exhibitions held last November this would involve:

1. A weir structure on the river bank (not across the river) and a shaft.
2. 'Screens' to stop fish / debris.
3. An intake tunnel entrance below water level

4. A 5km long 4 m diameter tunnel will be bored from the reservoir end to the tunnel entrance on the Thames at Culham at a depth of c. 20m. It will be bored in the same way underground tunnels get bored and the spoil and residue will be taken out at the reservoir end.
5. On the attached photo the red line is the route of the tunnel.
6. The teal-coloured line is an option for an open channel from the river (which can be used by boats and become part of the Wilts & Berkshire canal. But this would have to cross the A34....
7. The Severn transfer idea (which apparently GARD (Group Against Reservoir Development) would prefer is still a possibility but it would need to go over the Cotswolds, is very costly, and is not currently in the preferred plan).



SODC District Councillor's Report May 2024-Sam Casey-Rerhaye

The 'Way Ahead' for South Oxfordshire

We launched a consultation on the council's proposals for a new council plan for the next four years – this closed on 14th May and we heard from hundreds of people, online, email or in person.

Thank you to all of you who joined this conversation around what the council strategic priorities for the next four years should be, which will inform how we deliver our services – both statutory (like waste collection, planning and environmental health), and other services (like the Community Hub, councillor community grants or planning enforcement).

We will be considering all comments and producing our final plan by the autumn.

New 'Let It Bee' meadow areas added

The Council declared an ecological emergency in 2021. We are committed to doing what we can as a council to address this. We know that meadow/uncut areas are incredibly important for plants and insects and other creatures that rely on them – they provide a feast and habitat for hungry pollinators, birds and insects as the wildflowers grow.

Following on from the success of our Let It Bee trial last year our parks team is continuing with our land management where we allow the grass grow on sections of land we own or manage. This year we have added new sites to our meadow areas following recommendations from residents, council members and town and parish councils - sites across both South and Vale districts in Abingdon, Benson, Berinsfield, Botley, Didcot, Faringdon, Marcham, Shepherds Green, Wallingford, Wantage, and Woodcote.

For more information please see our grass cutting pages on our websites ([South/Vale](#))

New housing enforcement policy

Our new Housing Enforcement Policy supports residents as well as social housing landlords, private landlords, letting agents and tenants by setting out in a clear and transparent document the housing standards we expect in the districts. The policy also explains the enforcement approach we take against non-co-operative landlords.

We have a strong track record of engaging positively with landlords and the majority provide a good quality service to their tenants. However, where necessary, we must take robust action against rogue landlords who are unwilling to meet the required housing standards set out in the policy. This policy will help ensure a fair and consistent approach to housing enforcement in the districts.

The policy supports our corporate objectives to help us provide homes and infrastructure that meet local needs. It also builds upon the work already being undertaken by our Private Sector Housing team to promote and maintain good housing standards in South Oxfordshire

You can view the policy on our website.

Council agrees new taxi fares for South Oxfordshire

We have agreed new Hackney carriage fares for the district this month.

The new tariff sets a maximum hackney carriage fare and also outlines the time periods for when different costs apply. As a maximum tariff, drivers can choose to charge passengers a lower rate if they wish.

Setting tariffs is a standard practice across the country and something the council, as the licensing authority, is empowered to do by law. It is also an important part of protecting the public's interests by ensuring consistent and transparent rates.

The new tariff only applies to Hackney carriage taxis and for their journeys within the district. It does not apply to private hire taxis, which people book in advance. It has been calculated using a robust, tried and tested method – called the Guildford Method.

Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership Charter

The Council has pledged their commitment to OIEP. It means when the council agrees contracts it will assess the support the supplier can offer the local community as well as the value for money of the contract. The council will look wherever possible to buy goods and services from local organisations, including SMEs social enterprises and cooperatives.

By looking to buy from local organisations first we aim to reduce our carbon footprint while better supporting local economy.

We'll also support our staff to volunteer at local community projects, which we hope will enable them to build new skills and links with their communities, benefitting all involved,

We'd like to encourage the many fantastic local businesses of all sizes to follow suit and make their own pledges. Find out more at:

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

Some council car parking fees have changed

The fees are being simplified and rounded to the nearest £. All will still have a period of free parking. Some fees will reduce and others see a modest increase. Overall, it will mean some additional income for the council to use to cover the cost of running these car parks, otherwise we will need to use money that could (and should) be spent on other services.

May Half term activities that are low cost

Young children and their families can enjoy free and low-cost entertainment and activities during the May half-term holiday.

From 28 to 31 May, children can take part in the Xplorer navigation challenge in Benson and Abingdon. At Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot there's the chance to make your own robot sidekick from recycled material.

And lots more -

check out: southandvale.gov.uk/holidayactivities.

Contact me: sam.casey-rerhaye@southoxon.govuk

01235 635566

The Mouthpiece Team

We always welcome new volunteers to join the team whether you enjoy editing, marketing or distribution – please contact Anne or Gordon directly if you are interested in joining us



Other News

Pilates Classes

Crafting stronger bodies and minds.

Join Ellie Aldegheri for a multi-level Pilates class at the Matrix Arts Centre, Sutton Courtenay. The classes will tone and balance your muscles, align your body and strengthen your core.

Some mats and equipment are available, but please bring your own mat if you have one. If you would like to reserve your kit, please book your space in advance by contacting Ellie at lunasdanceproject@gmail.com

The classes will help with your posture and strength.

Classes will be fun whether you are a beginner or not as all levels of experience are catered for.

For further details see the Lunas Dance project advertisement in the Local Services Directory at the rear of The Mouthpiece.





The countryside charity
Oxfordshire

Summer Garden Open Days in aid of CPRE Oxfordshire

£10 per head, £5 for under 16s, under 10s free. Teas will be available – donations welcome.

Places limited so please reserve in advance – see www.cpreoxon.org.uk

Wednesday 5 June, 3pm-7pm College House, Stanton St John

The 800-year old St John the Baptist Church forms a unique backdrop to this wonderful garden, complete with fruit trees, walled garden and even the odd guinea fowl! June should be the perfect time to see the herbaceous borders in all their glory.

Sat 6 July, 2.30pm-5pm Coopers & Woolstone Lodge, Woolstone

Two wonderful gardens, within walking distance of each other, together offering topiary, herbaceous borders, wild garden, vegetable garden, rock garden, stream and open views across countryside and White Horse Hill.

All proceeds to CPRE Oxfordshire, the Countryside Charity.

www.cpreoxon.org.uk

facebook.com/CPREOxfordshire | [Twitter@CPREOxfordshire](https://twitter.com/CPREOxfordshire)



Soldiers of
Oxfordshire
Museum

Oxfordshire's military museum celebrates 10th Anniversary with new exhibitions, events and objects

- Many objects from the museum collection to go on display for the first time, never seen before outside of the museum's archive
- New objects on loan to the museum include Bond memorabilia and film props - such as a pair of Sean Connery's shoes worn in *Never Say Never Again* - while recently acquired SOE weapons and equipment illustrate the work of real WW2 spies.
- A new trail, *We Need To Talk About War*, asks visitors for their answers to the difficult questions that war poses
- A new audio guide will be voiced by comedian Al Murray, also a serious military historian with particular interest in the Second World War

Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock, OX20 1SN Registered Charity No. 1145408

www.sofo.org.uk | frontofhouse@sofo.org.uk | 01993 810 210



WhatsApp group chats are targeted by fraudsters

WhatsApp group chat members are being warned they could be targeted by criminals, as Action Fraud reveals it has received 636 reports from victims of the messaging app this year.

The fraud often begins when a member of the group receives a WhatsApp audio call from the fraudster, pretending or claiming to be another member of the group. This is done to gain the individual's trust, and often the scammer will use a false profile picture and/or display name, so at first glance it would appear to be a genuine member of the group.

The fraudster will tell the victim they are sending them a one-time passcode which will allow them to join an upcoming video call for group members. The criminal then asks the victim to share this passcode with them so they can be "registered" for the video call.

In reality, the criminal is asking for a registration code to register the victim's WhatsApp account to a new device so they can take over their account.

Once the fraudster has access to the victim's WhatsApp account, they will enable two-step verification which makes it impossible for the victim to regain access their account. Other members of the group, or friends and family in the victim's contacts, will then be messaged asking them to transfer money urgently as they are in desperate need of help.

How to secure your WhatsApp account:

- **Set up two-step verification (2SV)** to give an extra layer of protection to your account. Tap Settings > Account > Two-step verification > Enable.
- **CALL.** If a family member or friend makes an unusual request on WhatsApp, always call the person outside of WhatsApp to confirm their identity.
- **Report spam messages or block a sender within WhatsApp.** Press and hold on the message bubble, select 'Report' and then follow the instructions.

If you live in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and have been a victim of fraud or cybercrime, report it at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040. In Scotland, victims of fraud and cybercrime should report to Police Scotland on 101.

Find out how to protect yourself from fraud: <https://stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.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 July/August 2024 issue of the Mouthpiece by **June 15th** to:
generalmouthpiece@gmail.com

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ADDRESS

Stuart Morris, K1-0-65
Culham Science Centre,
Abingdon, Oxfordshire,
OX14 3DB

CONTACT

t: +44 (0)1235 464904
t: +44 (0)1235 464423
e: printservices@ukaea.uk
w: www.culhamstudio.co.uk

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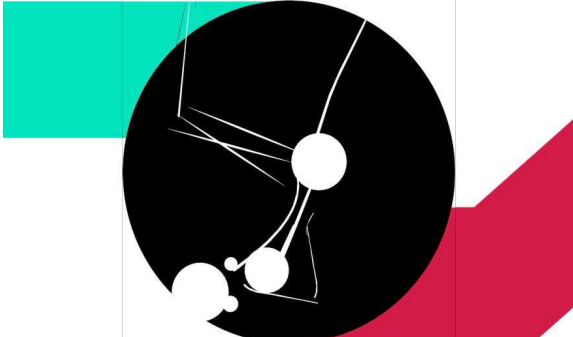
Visit our **NEW** showroom
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Transport Way, Cowley, Oxfordshire, OX4 6HE

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PILATES

MONDAY	9:30 – 10:30 AM
FRIDAY	9:30 – 10:30 AM



Matrix Arts Centre, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4UA
Drop in or book in advance online



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WHO IS WHO IN CULHAM

CULHAM PARISH COUNCIL			
Chris Pritchard (Chair)	c.pritchard@culham-pc.gov.uk		
Caroline Baird	c.baird@culham-pc.gov.uk		
Sam Casey-Rerhaye	s.caseyrerhaye@culham-pc.gov.uk	3 The Burycroft, Culham	01235 635566
Nacho Gimenez	n.gimenez@culham-pc.gov.uk		
Mike Richmond-Cooper	m.richmondcooper@culham-pc.gov.uk		
Siobhan Sargeant	s.sergeant@culham-pc.gov.uk	(Yes – the email is misspelled!)	
CLERK TO PARISH COUNCIL			
Denise Corney	clerk@culham-pc.gov.uk		
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR			
Sam Casey-Rerhaye	Sam.Casey-Rerhaye@southoxon.gov.uk	3 The Burycroft, Culham	01235 635566
COUNTY COUNCILLOR			
Robin Bennett	robin.bennett@oxfordshire.gov.uk	4 Meadside, Dorchester-on-Thames	07979 646815
ST PAUL'S CHURCH			
Associate Team Vicar:	Revd. Joanne Allen	revjoallen@gmail.com Dorchester Office: 01865 340007	
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:	vacancy	stpaulsculham@gmail.com	
Hon. Secretary:	Ruth Ward	stpaulsculham@gmail.com 5 Thame Lane, Culham	
FRIENDS OF ST PAUL'S CHURCH			
Chairman:	Philip Owen	6 The Green, Culham	01235 555223
ST PAUL'S & CULHAM VILLAGE RE-ORDERING COMMITTEE			
Philip Owen	stpaulsandculhamvillage@gmail.com	6 The Green, Culham	01235 555223
LADIES OF CULHAM (LOC)			
Laura Cooper	ladiesofculham@gmail.com	Also Jenny Williams, Jo Oughtred	
POLICE			
Neighbourhood Policing Team		Non-emergency Phone Number	101
THE MOUTHPIECE	generalmouthpiece@gmail.com		
Editors:	Anne Churchill Stone	21 High Street, Culham	01235 533011
	Gordon & Joan Gibbs	32 High Street, Culham	01235 523679
Advertising Manager:	vacancy		
	advertmouthpiece@gmail.com		
Distribution:	Laura & Mike Cooper	9 Tollgate Road, Culham	