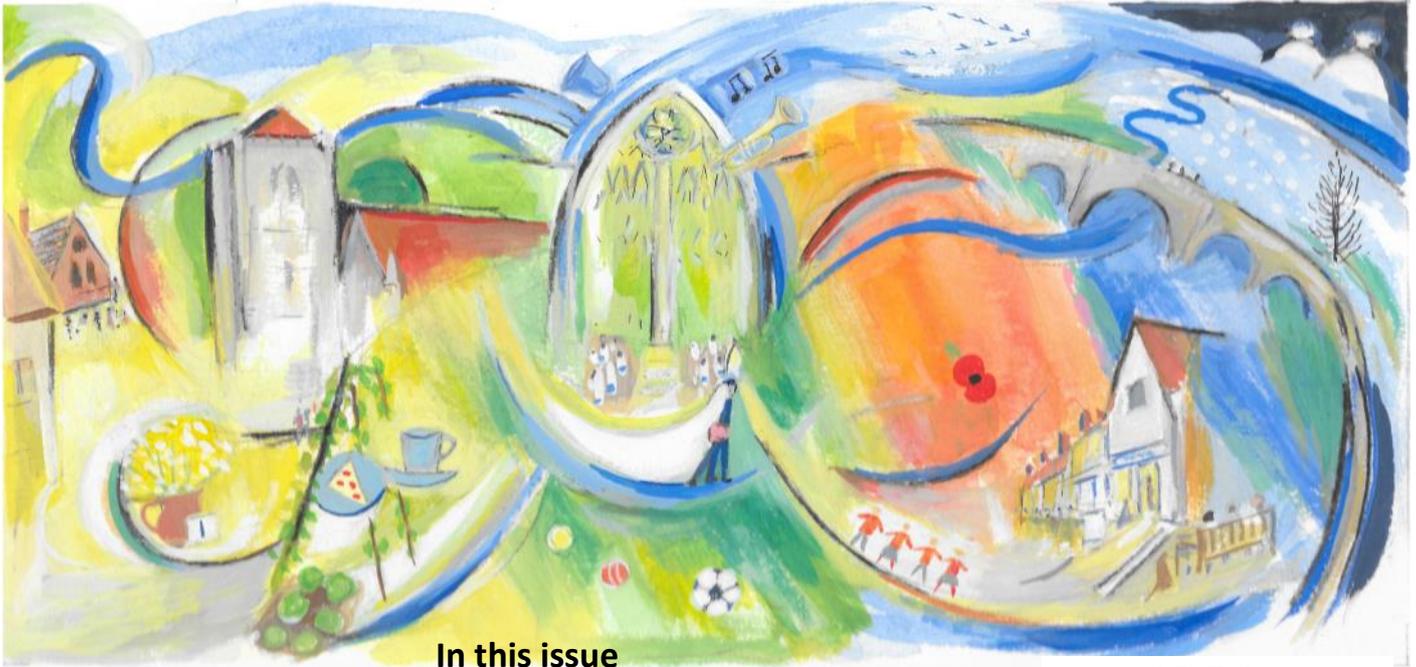


Dorchester News

Free to every home in the parish

September 2024





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Cover: The Wittenham Clumps from Bishops Court Farm.

Deadline for October Dorchester News



email:

dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

A DoT view

It is with sadness that this issue includes a tribute to Patricia (Puff) Drew who died in June. A talented illustrator and artist, Puff created the heading to this page to show the variety of activities and attractions of Dorchester, creating a representation of village life. Thank you Puff, we shall miss you.

One of our readers has raised the question of why we do not have a letters page in Dorchester News, as there used to be some years ago. Much of exchanges of views is now done through the village Facebook site, but she feels that there could be a place for those who aren't on Facebook or somewhere for possibly more considered views on longer-term issues that could be fruitfully aired through Dorchester News. We are always happy to include letters from readers, so if you agree with this, then please do not hesitate to send them to me. And if there are enough, we'll reinstate the letters page. The editor will always reserve the right not to include letters that are thought to be inappropriate or are uncredited.

Ian Brace

Editorial Team
Ian Brace, Megan Parry

Advertising Manager
Charlotte Garside

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The summer months are so often a time of transition – end of term services for schools, children moving up to 'big school', maybe house moves, job moves. In the Dorchester Team we have been saying a lot of goodbyes – to Revs Catherine, Caroline and Teresa as each of them have moved on to new ministries or retirement – and very soon we will be saying farewell to Rev Sorrel. We give heartfelt thanks for each of their ministries. I'm delighted to have welcomed Revd Jo to the team at the beginning of this year, and now we also have our new curate Rev Emma – new as curate but already well known to us. The saying 'constant change is here to stay' resonates!

So just as we did with appointing Rev Jo – we will be beginning the process of appointing two new Team Vicars. Such a process always raises the question of what we are seeking in our new priest – and underlying that who we understand ourselves to be as a church. Reading job adverts for clergy can be very revealing - I recently stumbled upon a blog post* with a 'job advert' which would warm the heart of many clergy...

"The Watership Downs benefice is a group of eight small parishes on the

coast of Bassetshire. We have been without a vicar for eight months, and we would love you to consider coming to join us. Our congregations are small and mainly elderly, and we have trouble raising all the money we need. We have thought very hard about our future, and we have come to some conclusions.

As a group of parishes we have realised that:

- If we want to survive, we must work together, ignoring old boundaries*
- Things cannot continue as they always have done*
- We are the church in the community, it is up to us to be visible*
- If we want children and young people in church, we must change to make them welcome*
- A vicar is just one person who can only be in one place at one time*
- We, together, are the church, and its thriving is the responsibility of each one of us*

We commit to:

- Pray for our vicar and make sure s/he has proper time and space to live as well as work*
- Offer our gifts and ideas without waiting to be asked*
- Work hard as the whole people of*

God in the service of the Gospel
 – Try new things and decide afterwards, rather than beforehand, whether they will work
 – Let go of old things to make way for the new things which God will do in and through us

- Are you someone who will*
- Gently remind us of all these things, regularly?*
 - Preach the Gospel with us and to us?*
 - Pray with us and for us?*
 - Lead our worship?*
 - Show us ways we might grow, as disciples and as a church?*
 - Guide us through the changes which will come?*

If so please contact..."

Please do pray as we seek to make some great new appointments – and please pray too for our churches in vacancy and our ministry team at a time when we continue to be quite stretched.

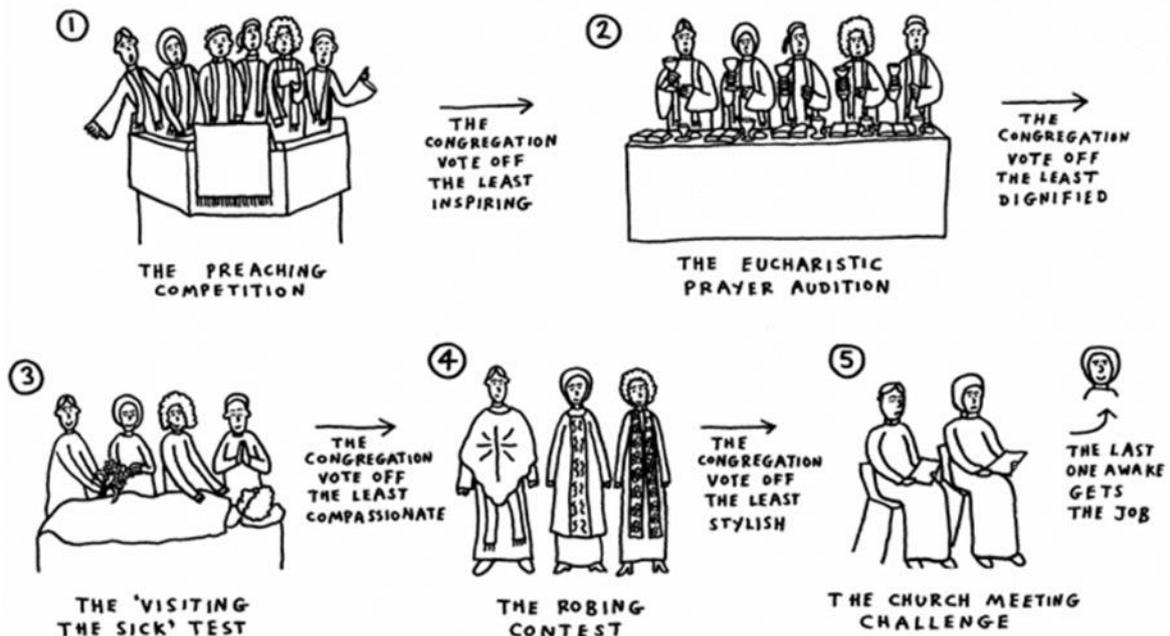
Every blessing

Jane

*The Quotidian Cleric, <https://quotidiancleric.wordpress.com/2014/01/11/the-perfect-job-advert/>

APPOINTING A NEW VICAR

THE PROCESS IS LONG AND COMPLEX



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Retiring from the Dorchester Team Rev'd Caroline King

'If I were you I wouldn't start from here'. This is the punchline of a well known joke. It seems apt when I think about what has brought about my retirement. As you know I am retiring on the grounds of ill health, granted by the Church of England Pensions Board. Given the choice it is not how I would choose to leave. I was ordained a deacon in 1997, my ministry has always been in the Deanery of Aston and Cuddesdon and I have been in my current post I have been in since 2012.

My ill health arose in part because I did not take seriously enough the need to take good care of myself. By autumn 2022 on the face of it I was coping well and managing a heavy and complex workload. The truth behind the safe doors of home was very different. I was barely sleeping, my mind was racing, my self esteem and confidence were at an all time low. I felt I was doing a terrible job and that I wasn't present to my immediate family. They rightly gave me an ultimatum, deal with it! After much prevarication I contacted St Luke's charity for clergy and asked to be referred to a counsellor. This took only a few weeks to organise, and I received excellent help and treatment in a timely manner from a therapist who was familiar with church and with the challenges and joys that we face in ministry.

I was diagnosed quickly with burnout and advised (told) to take some time off immediately. This was a warning I couldn't ignore. As time went on I decompressed but didn't get better and went on to develop a serious form of trauma injury called CPTSD. It is very closely related to PTSD but caused by multiple traumatic incidents rather than say a single event like a car accident.

Over the ten years or so that I have been in this team there have been some special moments but there have also been some many difficult and traumatic times. As clergy we are often on the receiving end of sometimes inappropriate and controlling behaviour. Over time this built up and has been costly.

I am recovering now but as with any serious injury or life changing illness I have to modify my lifestyle. For me this means giving up full time stipendiary ministry. Initially this felt a bitter blow, but it does not mean that my ordained ministry has ended. I hope to return very slowly to some form of non-stipendiary ministry once we have settled into retired life.

Despite this I leave with much gratitude for my time in the Dorchester team. Parish Ministry is demanding, but it is a wonderful job, we are reliant upon the many wonderful and committed laity who support our communities so well. Ministry can be costly but it is also a gift to be able to be there for people at the profound moments of their lives, to break and share bread and wine in the Eucharist and to pray in and for our communities and in return to be prayed for. This is a time of much change for the Dorchester Team. Please pray for Jane and for the wider ministry team as they take on extra responsibilities during the vacancies.

Our plan is to retire to Benson. South Oxfordshire is home for us and we would like to stay close to Sarah and hopefully to Josh as he prepares to begin a curacy next summer.

I am grateful to the Diocese to Bishop Gavin and Archdeacon David for their support and to Jane and all my clergy colleagues for unstinting support and of course to you all for friendships shared.



8th September, 10.30am
Pets Service



Come and join us as we thank God
for His animals and for all Creation.
(Bring your own pet or come and enjoy others'.)



All are welcome at our Family Services
for worship, Bible stories, fun and refreshments

Introducing Rev'd Emma Firth New Curate

I was ordained as a Deacon on 29 June in Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford, after training at Ripon College Cuddesdon on the part time pathway, where I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of studying Theology, although it was challenging at times. I am a life-long Christian and have been singing in church choirs for most of my life since the age of 11. I have served on PCCs and done lots of other interesting roles in other churches, from removing cobwebs with a very long pole to serving as a Diocesan Synod Rep!

I am married to Andrew, and we have two children, Megan and Jamie, who are young adults: one just about to leave university and the other about to start.

Prior to ordination, I was a Chartered Accountant with an HR qualification and worked mostly in the charitable sector for the last fifteen years. I will spend roughly half my week in parish, and I also work three days a week at Church House in Kidlington.

If I had lots of spare time, I would read books that aren't always theology, make the garden look beautiful, crochet, embroider and spend lots of time drinking coffee with friends. The pace of study during curacy should be much slower, so I am hoping to spend a bit more time doing those things than I have during the three years as an Ordinand.

I am really excited about serving the Dorchester Team as a curate and look forward to getting to know you – if you see me around the villages, do stop and say hello!

Rev'd Sorrel Shamel- Wood

After four years as assistant curate in the Dorchester Team, it's time for me to move on and as many of you are already aware, we are having another baby in October. I have learnt so much during my time as curate in the Dorchester Team and really enjoyed working with you all. We will be staying in the Oxford area, and I will be taking up a post at St Mary the Virgin, the University Church as children, families and schools chaplain after a period of maternity leave. Do keep us in your prayers and please be assured that you will remain in ours.

Sorrel

Farewell gift for Rev'd Sorrel

We would love to give her a gift as she moves on to her new role. If you would like to contribute to their farewell gift please would you make a payment to our Dorchester Team account (Sort Code 20-65-21, Acct 30347515 Dorchester Team) marking it clearly with Sorrel in the reference field.

Service Information

See service list in Dorchester Diary, page 30 but please check with your minister.

Most parishes send a weekly email with service information; if you want to receive this email – and for up to date information about services - please call the Team Office on **01865 340007** or email admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Events in the Abbey

Sat 14 Sept: 7.00pm. OSJ Mozart and Beethoven

The fourth concerto is Beethoven in his most jovial mood but also contains the drama we associate with this composer. On first listening it sounds like a concerto that a virtuoso could just dash off with the usual élan but on closer inspection it is far more difficult to bring off than one could imagine. The four notes that open Beethoven's Fifth Symphony have a claim to being the most famous musical motto ever written. 'Fate knocking at the door', is how Beethoven is reported to have described the theme. £5.00 – £25.00 Free tickets available for NHS workers and for the disabled. www.osj.org.uk Please email admin@osj.org.uk

Fri 27 September 8.00pm & Sat 28 September 7.00pm. The Delicate Sound of Pink Floyd

Two Nights of Pink Floyd music live in the stunning setting of Dorchester Abbey. Eleven Musicians replicating the 1988 touring band. Over two hours of music from the 1988 world tour plus other favourites, the tribute show will highlight the best of Pink Floyd with lights, lasers and animations. Info: www.thedelicatesoundofpinkfloyd.co.uk Tickets £29.50 www.ticketsource.co.uk/delicate-sound-of-pink-floyd

Contact the Abbey Office

If you are feeling fragile or alone at home, and would like to have a home visit or Communion at home, please contact Sandie or Sam at the Abbey Office on **01865 340007**.

The Cloister Garden

A huge thank you from the Parochial Church Council to the GreenDoTs and Friends of the Abbey for bringing a new lease of life to the Cloister Garden

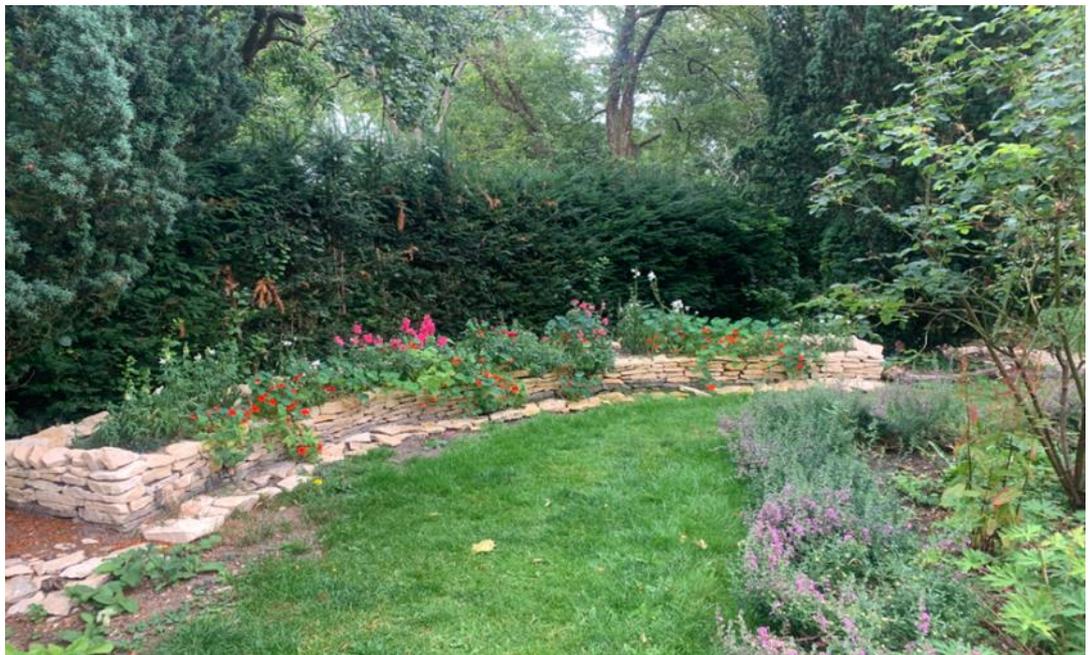
You will have seen the article in the July/August edition of the Dorchester News in which the GreenDots explained the work they have recently carried out with the Friends of the Abbey in reviving the 'Edith Stedman garden', a flower bed and a low semi-circular dry stone wall, in the Abbey's Cloister Garden.

We are so grateful for the dedication, enthusiasm and sheer hard work that the volunteers, of GreenDoTs and Friends of the Abbey have provided in making the project such a beautiful success.

The life of the Abbey continues only through the love and care, and generous support of so many volunteers and this initiative to restore the area as a place where, fulfilling

Edith Stedman's dream, "mothers can bring their children and where visitors can sit peacefully in the sun", has been so richly achieved. We know the peace and beauty of the Cloister Garden are appreciated by so many.

Thank you for your generosity, commitment and support of the life of the Abbey.





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Calling all children!

The Dorchester Flower Show Committee would like to promote more youngsters to take part, so for both the Autumn and Spring Shows we are extending our children's classes. Also – and very exciting it is too - as well as the usual placings for each class, we will have a cup for the highest scoring child exhibitor. Entry for all classes is free.

This autumn's children's classes are: 3 rock cakes, a painting or drawing (any theme, max A4) and an animal made of vegetables. So why not get some practise over the summer hols and have a go.

The full list of all classes and entry form can be found in full on page 11.

Dorchester Lunch Club

The Lunch Club will be restarting in October and the dates will be **Wednesday 2 October, Wednesday 30 October and Wednesday 27 November**. The lunches will take place in the Back Room of the Village Hall at 12.45, but please come at 12.30, if possible, to pay and get seated. I very much hope that members who attended the lunches earlier this year will be able to come again.

I would welcome new members, particularly those living on their own. The lunches cost £5 payable by cash when you come. The meal provided is a home cooked main course and dessert followed by coffee or tea to finish. The meal is cooked by volunteers living in the village. I am afraid we are unable to offer you a choice of menu and so if you have any special requirements or allergies it is essential that you let me know well in advance and we will try and cater for you.

It is very important that everyone who wants to come to a lunch phones me by the Friday preceding the date so I can inform the cooks about the numbers to cook for.

Volunteers to wash and dry up for the meals would be very much appreciated. You would need to come at 1.00 and would be finished by 2.00. I really need 2 volunteers for each date. Drying up cloths will be provided so you would only need to bring your own washing up gloves (if you normally use them) and an apron. I would be very grateful if you could let me know if you are willing to help.

Also drivers are wanted. Although most of our members are able to walk to the Village Hall or come on their electric wheelchair, we do sometimes need volunteer drivers to fetch and take home a member so they can attend a meal which they would otherwise be unable to come to. If you are able to help. Please let me know.

Susan Jupp (Co-ordinator for the Lunch Club)
Phone **01865 341066**
or mobile **07907778774**
or email **susanjupp13@gmail.com**



Dorchester Abbey Museum News

Successful Archaeology Workshop for Kids 20 July

On a lovely July Saturday afternoon, as its contribution to the national Festival of Archaeology fortnight, the museum held a workshop, led by Ellie Ribeiro and Gill Whitten, to introduce the museum's collections and archaeology to children, and to have fun in the process.

An enthusiastic group of 27 children aged 5-12, with their parents and younger siblings in attendance, made Roman coins and stone age necklaces with Ellie Ribeiro, Gill Whitten and Sally Bell, constructed mosaics, washed pot sherds, and searched for artefacts in sand and gravel with Karyn and Megan Rennie, and talked about a display of finds from the museum collection and archaeology in general with archaeologists Paul Booth (who co-directed the allotment dig) and Karen Selway-Richards. Many families also visited the museum, where Candy Madeley was in charge for the afternoon.



Jewellery and coin 'makes' from the workshop

Thanks are due to the Abbey for the loan of the marquee, tables and chairs, and to all those who helped to set up and strike the tent. We'd also love to have your photos of the event – send to museum@dorchester-abbey.org.uk.

Margot Metcalfe,
Curator

Advertising in Dorchester News

To advertise in Dorchester News please contact Charlotte Garside, Advertising Manager at DorchNews.advertising@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

one week before the deadline for editorial copy given on page 2.

Costs per issue are for an eighth of a page £12.75 mono, £13.75 colour; quarter page £25.50 mono, £27.50 colour; half page £38.25 mono, £41.25 colour and full page £51.00 mono, £55.00 colour. There are ten issues per year.



Hempcroft Allotments September

The Hempcroft Allotment Association AGM for 2024 will be held in the Village Hall on **Tuesday 24 September at 7.30pm**.

This will be the opportunity to elect your committee members for the forthcoming year, to pay your rent for the forthcoming year, collect seed catalogues, and meet some fellow allotment neighbours over a convivial glass of wine and commiserate over a very difficult growing year.

Please note that at the 2023 AGM I gave notice of my intention to stand down as Chairman having done the job for over 12 years.

If you are not already an allotment holder but are interested in obtaining one, then you are most welcome to join the meeting.

Please note that following consultation with the Parish Council the annual rent will be increased for the forthcoming year. The rent for a 10 pole plot will be £30, for a 5 pole plot it will be £20, and for a smaller plot it will be £10. The Hempcroft Allotment Association annual subscription will remain at £10 per year. The rents and subscriptions will remain at these levels for the foreseeable future.

Edward Metcalfe
340160
edmetcalfe@yahoo.co.uk



Hempcroft Allotments: Photograph by Matthew Cutler

Strong Cast Announced for DADS' Next Show

The auditions for DADS' next play, Lord Arthur Savile's Crime attracted a huge amount of interest. Mark Wilkin, director for this show, reports that he could have cast the show twice over! Consequently, Mark has been able to announce a really strong cast which includes four actors who have not acted with DADS before.

The full cast is:

Baines - Mike Lord
Lord Arthur Savile - Benoit Preece
Sybil Merton - Alice Hope
The Dean of Paddington - Ian Brace
Lady Windermere - Rosemary Mills
Lady Clementina Beauchamp - Eileen Pinkarchevski
Lady Julia Merton - Liz Mente-Bishop
Mr Podgers - Russell Bailey
Nellie - Roisin Barnfather
Frau Winkelkopf - Lucinda Kenrick

Lord Arthur Savile's Crime is a very funny black comedy adapted for the stage by Constance Cox from Oscar Wilde's short story. Just three performances are scheduled, from **14 to 16 November**. Make sure you don't miss out! Tickets, priced at £12 are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/dads.

Warborough & Shillingford WI



The WI July Members' Meeting opened to the strains of 'Night Fever' by the Bee Gees as Thea Rogers led us through the Zumba moves. Chairs had to be well-spaced to make room for the arm and leg movements made in time with the music. Thea began her career organising seated exercises in care homes years ago but felt something more cheerful was needed. She had noticed old people were often ignored, encouraged just to sit in a corner and watch TV. Thea believes OAPs want to do more and are capable of doing so, especially with the security of a chair to support them. This is when she decided to train as a Zumba teacher. She is now licenced, which is quite expensive, but worth it as she gets all her music and routines from the Licencing Authority. Thea takes her Zumba Gold classes to Old Persons' Residential Homes, and she particularly likes getting dementia sufferers involved, as she told us, their coordination is improved, and it is hugely beneficial to all. A lively evening which was loads of fun.

July is the month the annual ceremony of Swan Upping takes place at Benson Lock and a group of Warborough and Shillingford WI members were there to see it. Two teams of Uppers, from the Vintners Company and the Dyers Company, catch, weigh, ring & measure the swans and cygnets they find on the river Thames, in order to assess their health before returning them to the water. All overseen by David Barber, the King's Swan Marker, as this is a tradition maintained by the Crown. They row skiffs from Sunbury to Abingdon, working together in this important conservation exercise. We walked from Warborough to Shillingford Bridge and then along the Thames path to Benson Lock on a sunny day, to watch. David Barber, dressed in his scarlet uniform and yachting cap, sporting a swan feather, told us last year the numbers were

The 28th of July Birthday Club

It transpires that six lovely ladies living in Dorchester all share the same birthday - 28th July. Though we have resisted the temptation to rank the group from oldest to youngest! ... we do try to meet up each year and celebrate our kindred spirit and star sign Leo. What a surprise for so many to share the same birthday in such a small community.

We would love to know if there are any others in the village eligible to join this exclusive birthday club.



Photo by Andy Pay

From left to right

Claire Andersson, Charlotte Bennett, Sophia Liberty-Stewart, Becky Waller, Melinda Powell, Gill Baish.

If your birthday is 28th July, get in touch with Charlotte Bennett, charlotte.bennett28@icloud.com, to join the club.

And are there other groups of six or more in Dorchester with the same birthday? Let Dorchester News know.

down because of Avian Flu but this year they are down even more. He believes the poor Spring weather and the floods, which washed away the nests, to be the cause. In days gone by the day would end with a feast at which swan would be eaten, but that no longer happens, I am pleased to say.

Future Programme:

September – OCC 'Scams and What to Look out for'; October Susan Pfunder 'Peru'; George McGavin 'It's a Wild Life: Tales from Television'.

The WI meetings have a varied programme, there are speakers, outings and activities. Being a member also entitles you to join in activities arranged by the Oxfordshire Federation. If you would like to try something different and meet new friends, come along to our monthly WI meeting on the second Wednesday of every month in the St. Laurence Hall, Warborough. Members come from Dorchester, Shillingford and Warborough and if transport is an issue lifts can be arranged. Come and join us, we would love to meet you.

Contact email: warboroughwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk
President - Sarah Allan **01865 858673**
or Secretary - Vicky Hart **01865 416437**



Dorchester Abbey Museum Summer Party

On the balmy evening of Monday 12 August, the committee and volunteers of the Abbey Museum came together in the Guest House Courtyard to have a chance to socialise and, particularly for the volunteers, to compare notes about their experiences working the Museum shop. It was generally agreed that the most popular items sold in the shop are those pertaining to *Midsomer Murders*, a programme which several of the volunteers had to admit that they have never seen. Hopefully they can refer any questions about the history of the Barnabys as detectives to the books that the visitors are keen to buy.



Curator of the Museum, Margot Metcalfe, said how grateful she and the committee are to all the volunteers, and not just those in the shop but all those behind the scenes who are busy sorting and cataloguing all the material that has been bequeathed to them. It should not be forgotten that Margot and the committee are of course themselves all volunteers.



The Rector, Reverend Jane Willis, said how grateful the Abbey is to everyone who works in and supports the Museum in so many ways.. She had to admit that in all her years in the clergy, she had never before had the responsibility of a museum, and so relied heavily on those who know what they are doing.

Canapés and cold drinks were consumed for a further hour or so as the volunteers chatted.

Walking Football Taster

Are you interested in trying walking football for the first time or playing locally? Walking Football is the perfect fit for everyone who wants to play football for longer, make new friends, get out of the house and stay active. Players must keep one foot on the ground at all times, and contact above the waist is not allowed to reduce the risk of injury.

Abbey Sport Centre will be hosting free walking football tasters on the new ATP from 10.00am-11.00am on **Wednesdays 11 September, 18 September and 25 September.**

Register your interest by sending us an email on abbey@gll.org, call **07477 507151** or simply turn up on the day.

Kate Mulrey
Community Sport Manager – Oxfordshire
07477 507151



FREE TASTER SESSIONS

WALKING FOOTBALL TASTER

Walking Football is a great way to exercise and meet new people. Everyone is made to feel welcome when participating in this slowed down version of the classic game. Whether you're completely new, or played football when you were younger, walking football will add a new lease of life to your week.

We will be hosting walking football tasters on **11th, 18th and 25th September, 10am - 11am.**

Simply turn up on the day



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RULES

1. The Show is open to any person residing in Dorchester-on Thames, Burcot, Drayton St Leonard and Berinsfield, or with a Dorchester allotment.

2. No exhibitor may exhibit more than one exhibit in each class, excepting Classes 21, 26 and 27, where three entries may be made.

3. The **number** of exhibits in Class 1 must be the same as in the corresponding class **where applicable** and **in a container**.

4. All entry forms to be submitted no later than 7.00 pm on the Wednesday evening before the show.

5. All exhibits in classes 1-40 must have been grown by the exhibitor. All exhibits in classes 41-55 must be home produced by the exhibitor. All pot plants must have been owned for a minimum of 4 months.

6. Exhibitors must provide their own dishes, stands etc. Every care will be taken of the exhibits, but the committee will not be held responsible for loss or damage.

7. On the relative merits of the exhibits, the opinion of the judges shall be final, but the committee reserves to itself the decision on any other points in dispute.

8. The Committee reserves the right to inspect any competitor's garden or allotment before or after the day of the show.

9. All exhibits must be staged between 9.00 am and 10.15 am on the day of the show. Competitors must leave their exhibits on show until after the Prize giving and clear immediately afterwards. Items not cleared will be disposed of.

11. Any protests must be made in writing before 3.00 pm on the day of the Show.

12. Any exhibitor infringing any of these rules will be disqualified.

**DORCHESTER-ON-THAMES
AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW**

and
Plant Sale/Raffle

in
DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

on
Saturday 14th September 2024

Staging 9.00 am -10.15 am
Viewing 2.30 pm - 4.00 pm

Raffle draw and
presentation of prizes from 3.40 pm

Exhibitors will be competing for:
The Amey Rose Bowl, The Rose Plate,
The Amey Tankard, The Fruit Plate,
The R Belcher Onion Cup,
The Floral Art Cup, The Runner Bean Plate,
The Britain in Bloom Cup, The Best Vegetable Award,
Vegetable Collection Plate,
The Pat Cheese Potato Cup, Victoria Sandwich Award,
The HC Smith Dahlia Cup,
The Blackwell Photography Cup
The Jerry Nudds Fruit Cake Plate and
The Jenny Nudds Tomato Cup

**The first Dorchester Flower Show
was held in 1859**

Section 1 - Vegetables

- 1) Collection of 4 different types of vegetables (see rule 3)
- 2) Potatoes 5 white
- 3) Potatoes 5 coloured
- 4) Carrots 3, foliage 3" max
- 5) Parsnips 3, foliage 3" max
- 6) Onions 5
- 7) Garlic 3 bulbs
- 8) Shallots 7
- 9) Beetroot 3
- 10) Runner Beans 5
- 11) Longest Runner Bean
- 12) French Beans 5
- 13) Any other beans 5
- 14) Chillies 5
- 15) Sweet peppers 2
- 16) Tomatoes 5
- 17) Tomatoes, Cherry type 7
- 18) Cucumbers 2
- 19) Courgettes 3
- 20) Herbs - 4 bunches in water (space 12"x12")
- 21) Any other vegetable (see rule 2)
- 22) Squash 2
- 23) A disaster vegetable

Section 2 - Fruit

- 24) Apples, Cooking 5
- 25) Apples, Dessert 5
- 26) Berry Fruit (see rule 2)
- 27) Any other fruit (see rule 2)

Section 3 - Flowers

- 28) Flowering plant in pot, pot max 8" diameter
- 29) Foliage plant in pot, pot max 8" dia
- 30) Dahlia - 1, 6" diameter and over
- 31) Dahlias - 3, 3" to 6" diameter
- 32) Rose - 1 bloom any type
- 33) Succulent in pot, pot max 8" diameter
- 34) Flowering shrub - 3 stems, one variety
- 35) Berried shrub, including hips - 3 stems, one variety
- 36) Michaelmas daisies - 3 stems
- 37) Annuals - 3 stems, one variety
- 38) Annuals - 5 stems, all different plant families
- 39) Biennials or Perennials - 3 stems, one variety
- 40) Biennials or Perennials - 5 stems, all different plant families

Section 4 - Flower Arrangements

- 41) 'Autumn' (max w18"x h24"x d18")
- 42) Single colour posy (max 8"x8"x8")

Section - 5 Domestic

- 43) Red Velvet cake
- 44) Fruit cake
- 45) Victoria sponge, caster sugar topping, jam filling
- 46) Rye Bread
- 47) Chocolate Brownies - 5
- 48) Pot of jelly
- 49) Tomato ketchup

Section 6 - Photography and Art - All unmounted, not exhibited previously.

- Classes 50 & 51: Conventional or digital camera (*must not be manipulated or enhanced in any way*) Max 8" x 6"
- 50) 'Garden Life'
- 51) Subject beginning with 'L',

52) An unframed painting or drawing - max dimension 18"

Section 7 - Children All own work please - state age on exhibit

- 53) Rock cakes - 3
- 54) Animal made of vegetables
- 55) Painting or drawing - any theme - max A4

ENTRY FORM

Please return no later than **7.00 pm Wednesday, 11 Sept** to: Christina Stores, 55 High Street (post through letterbox please)

Class Nos

Full name of Exhibitor Telephone no.....

Address.....

Email address (for Flower Show reminders and schedule only).....



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Dorchester Historical Society

Our next meeting will be on:

Wednesday 25 September 2024, 7.30pm, Dorchester Abbey Shrine Chapel, Members free, Visitors welcome (£5).

Dr Edward Caswell will speak on

An Introduction to the Portable Antiquities Scheme

This talk will reveal some of the many fantastic archaeological discoveries made in Oxfordshire through chance or metal detecting. These finds are frequently recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme which has now recorded over 1.7 million artefacts across England and Wales, tens of thousands of which have been discovered in Oxfordshire. It shares information on the systems in place to preserve the objects, the ways in which archaeologists engage with metal detecting and some of the exciting stories these finds can reveal about Oxfordshire and the area in and around Dorchester.



Dr Edward Caswell is the Finds Liaison Officer for Oxfordshire. His research specialises in the Bronze Age of Britain having published particularly on the period's burials, settlements and hoards.

Dates for your diary:

Future meetings this autumn:

23 October: Dr Wendy Morrison on 'Archaeology in the Chilterns: the tip of the Iceberg?'

27 November: Peter Adamson 'A Town called Wallingford'



Dorchester Pre-School

Well what a wonderful end to the school year we had in July! We had a fun sports day in glorious weather and a super graduation party put on by Helen and all the team at the pre-school. Not a dry eye was seen! It was a really special group of children and a lot were at the preschool from 2 years of age. We wish them all the best for their new journeys in school life. A lot moving next door so I'm sure they will be able to wave through the fence.

We had a very successful online auction fundraiser that was organised by Kelly and Emma. The funds will go towards some outdoor equipment. We are always on the lookout for fundraisers so if you have any ideas or would like to join the committee please contact the team.

We have started the term with the topic all about me and getting to know each other. All of the children have settled well. We will look at harvest festival and Halloween is always a great hit with the children and an opportunity to raise funds with a party.

The garden is continuing to have updates with some new veg patches and continuing with activities under our beautiful pergola.

There are places available currently and we accept 2 and 3 year old funding so please contact Helen Morris to have a look around.

.Sarah Egan

Oxfordshire Libraries

Regular events at Berinsfield Library

Digital Helper: Tuesdays 10am to 1pm

New time and day

Help in using smart phones, tablets and laptops. Support for those less confident with technology. Booking essential.



Rhymetime Wednesdays at 10.30am during term time

Gentle singing and rhyming fun for preschoolers and toddlers with toys, instruments and bubbles!



Children's Book Club

monthly, Thursday 3.30pm to 4.15pm

For children ages 7 to 11. Discover new books and enjoy fun activities. Contact the library for this month's date.



Library Book Club

last Friday of the month 2pm

Contact the library for this month's book or turn up to say hello and help choose the next one. All very welcome.



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Dorchester Abbey

Saturday 14th September



Help preserve the history on your doorstep by raising funds for Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust.

All funds raised go to OHCT and 50% can be passed on to a church or chapel of your choice.

join us

Everyone is welcome to take part - as an individual, as a family or as a group of friends.

Please collect a sponsorship form from the Abbey

or

register at:

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

For more information visit: <https://ridestride.org>



Date	Dorchester 1 result	Dorchester 2 result
22/06/2024	Dorchester 1 beat Tiddington II by 4 Wickets	Abingdon Vale 3 beat Dorchester 2 by 6 wickets
29/06/2024	Bledlow Ridge 1 drew with Dorchester 1	Dorchester 2 drew with Cumnor 3
06/07/2024	Match Abandoned between Dorchester 1 and Waddesdon	Match Abandoned between Challow and Childrey 3 and Dorchester 2
13/07/2024	Dorchester 1 drew with Thame Town 2	Dorchester 2 beat East and West Hendred 2 by 6 wickets
20/07/2024	Bletchley Town 1 beat Dorchester 1 by 2 Wickets	Wolvercote 3 beat Dorchester 2 by 6 wickets
27/07/2024	East Oxford 2 beat Dorchester 1 by 127 Runs	Dorchester 2 beat Didcot 4 by 3 wickets
03/08/2024	Chearsley beat Dorchester by 8 Wickets	Dorchester 2 beat Letcombe 1 by 13 runs
10/08/2024	Dorchester 1 beat Westbury 2 by 39 Runs	Dorchester 2 beat Harwell International 1 by 33 runs



QUIZ NIGHT
SATURDAY 5 OCTOBER
7.00PM
Dorchester Village Hall

Book a table (6 - 8 people)
£10 per person in advance
Includes "Posh Ploughmans"

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Wallingford Quakers Celebrate Come And Join Us!



Did you know there has been a Quaker Meeting House in Wallingford for 300 years? Tucked in opposite the entrance to the castle, this hidden jewel was built when 'Friends' as Quakers are also known, moved from their earlier origins in Warborough.

Wallingford Quakers will be celebrating their 300th birthday on **14 September** to coincide with the local Ride and Stride open churches day.

The Meeting House at 13, Castle Street will be open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Do drop in to have a look at the historic meeting room and garden, have a cup of tea and find out other interesting 'did you know?' facts about Quakers.



LORD ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME

A comedy by Constance Cox
based on the short story by
Oscar Wilde

Directed by Mark Wilkin

7.30 pm
13th-16th November 2024

Dorchester Village Hall
7 Queen Street OX10 7HR

Tickets £12

ticketsource.co.uk/dads

*This amateur production of "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime" is presented
by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel
French Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk*

DADS
Dorchester Amateur Dramatics Society



Volunteer with Earth Trust

Education Support – do you have experience of working with children? Could you help run our environmental education programme? Earth Trust offers the opportunity for young people to take their **classroom based** learning and come to understand its importance in a real world setting. Every workshop is designed to make full use of our woodland, meadows, farmland, rivers and wetlands, and heritage sites. Our Education Support volunteers assist the education team to deliver Earth School sessions to a mainstream primary audience.

Ambassador – Passionate about our planet? Love meeting new people? Could you become a representative for Earth Trust at local events and our green spaces? You would help the charity to raise awareness of Earth Trust and its charitable activities; offer information to visitors to help them make the most of their visit; encourage local people to get involved including through membership, fundraising, events, volunteering, venue hire and more!

For more information on the roles email the team at volunteering@earthtrust.org.uk or take a look at the website www.earthtrust.org.uk/volunteer.



Make an Impact! Volunteer with Citizens Advice

Oxfordshire South and Vale.

Are you looking for a new challenge, and want to contribute something to your community? Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice is looking for volunteer advisers and IT specialists to work in our friendly offices in Abingdon, Didcot, Henley or Thame.

Citizens Advice gives people the knowledge and confidence they need to find their way forward - whoever they are and whatever their problem. In a typical year our 111 volunteers support around 10,000 people. Our volunteers play a vital role, ensuring that people receive the advice and support they need.

We are currently looking for advisers and IT specialists.

Advisers will:

- Receive extensive training and support to ensure they have the knowledge to help people move forward
 - Learn about a range of issues that affect our clients including benefits, debt, housing and employment (no prior knowledge necessary)
 - Give confidential advice over the phone and in person
 - Make a real difference to people's lives, contributing to improving their wellbeing
 - Have a sense of belonging to the community developed through working with people from all backgrounds
- A new adviser training course begins in early October 2024, so apply now!

IT specialists will:

- Help to maintain our IT systems and support the service
- Help staff and volunteers with day-to-day IT issues, for example with trouble logging on, connecting to Wi-Fi and locating files.
- Help to maintain our local Citizens Advice website.

We would like you to be available for two sessions per week, if possible, either mornings or afternoons or for a whole day. We offer a rewarding, flexible and supportive working environment.

We also welcome volunteer receptionists, fund raisers, communication workers and HR administration.

To apply, please use this link:

<https://citizensadviceosav.org.uk/volunteering/>

Or, if you would like to discuss these volunteering roles, please email: recruitment@citizensadviceosav.org.uk and one of our team will contact you.



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Patricia Mary Drew 1938 - 2024

Patricia Mary Drew (Puff), who has died aged 85, was an artist who through her life worked in design, as an author, illustrator, teacher and since her move to Dorchester on Thames as a printmaker. Throughout her life her work was influenced by her love of the sea, of dance and imbued with her sense of humour.

Born in Carbis Bay, Cornwall, within sound and smell of the sea her mother was a highly qualified (RA) musician; piano and organ and her father an engineer, a man with imagination who invented in his spare time. Puff credited both her father's easy wit and inventiveness and mother's sense of rhythm and dance for informing her own life. Towards the end of the war the family moved to join her father in Alverstoke where he was working as a 'boffin' for the Navy. It was here Puff made life long friendships and in Portsmouth where she started life as an artist leaving the restrictions of boarding school at 16 for the Portsmouth College of Art. Then to London with a portfolio of art and design, first joining United Turkey Red where early designs were taken up by M&S amongst other big names. On the death of her father in 1963 she returned to be with her mother, working freelance.

In 1965 she took the slow boat to China taking in Egypt, Aden, Bombay, Ceylon, Penang, Singapore and Hong Kong, swimming at every opportunity. Finally she settled with a Chinese family in Hong Kong. On returning to the UK Puff set to writing her children's books, finding an



agent and publisher before flying back to Hong Kong. Here she sketched and painted in the streets, accepted by the Hong Kong Chinese and Vietnamese boat people. It sounds romantic but was risky and shows her courage and determination. Meanwhile 'Hogglespike and Thistle' was published and later with her return to live in Oxfordshire 'Spotter Puff' hit the children's shelves. Other books followed. At this time Puff also worked at Collingham Tutors and became aware of how her own art benefitted from the teaching experience.

In 1978 Puff moved to Dorchester on Thames, 'a beautiful village with a splendid abbey' where she truly settled. She taught at the Oxford College of Further Education and joined The Oxford Printmakers Cooperative where she found her medium. Puff describes this move as a real breakthrough 'the medium and all its processes makes you think up ideas'. Her introduction to Drypoint

etching, attractive to her for its link to drawing led to monoprinting and Chine collee. Living in Dorchester and the greater Oxford area introduced her to many fellow artists and led to opportunities in group exhibitions. At this time too, she was taken on by the Printmaker's Council exhibiting her work in London. Puff's work evolved to the style we all know, still exhibiting themes of storytelling, dance, swimming in the sea, rivers and lakes and with that sense of humour, of fun! So many of her prints simply light up your day and leave you with a happy smile.

Throughout her working career Puff had another life of friends, of love, of ups and downs, feasts, weddings and funerals. Of her much loved family and God children. She had vivid memories of her parents, of family homes, of all she saw, much of which is in her sketch books and recorded in her art. Many favourite memories were of swimming. Swimming be it in the Thames at home or overseas but an overriding memory was of standing in the surf in Cornwall, of riding a breaking wave on her old surfboard. The same board on which she lay in her coffin as we said our farewells.

A memorial service will be held in Dorchester Abbey at 3.00pm on 30 September.



Left: Supervising the installation of a new Rochat printing press at Oxford Printmakers c.1997
Photo: Catriona Brodribb

Right: Painting in 1988.
Photo: Helen Russell



Examples of the work of Patricia Drew



Above: 'The Gallery' a print of the Tate, St Ives. Winner of a Printmakers Council award.

Left: 'Blue Moon', this incorporates the dance and looking at it brings to mind her love of Matisse and 'The Dance'.

Both pictures courtesy of Patricia's family and © the estate of Patricia Drew.



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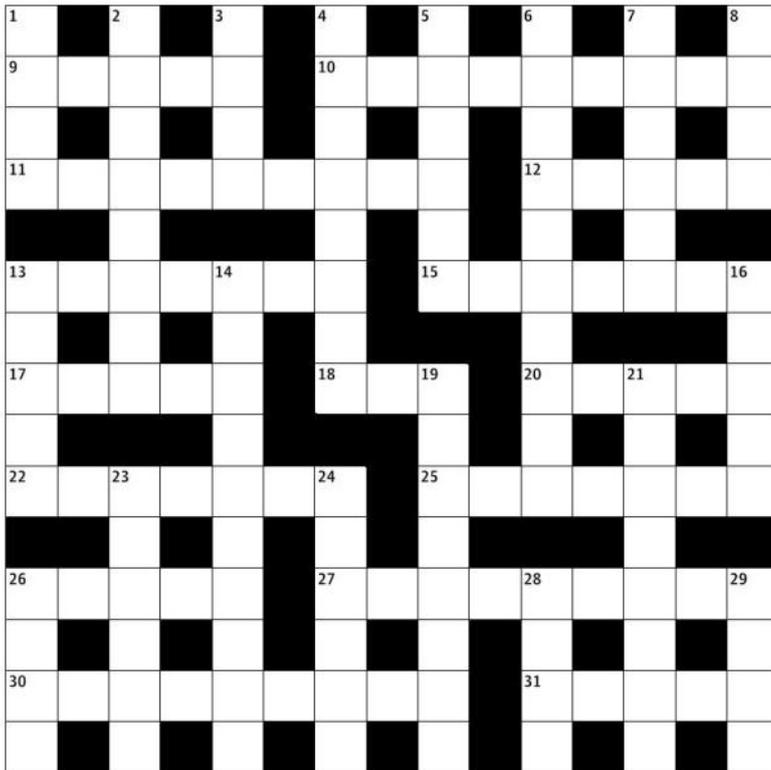
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Dorchester News Crossword No.33

Compiled by Slider



- 25 It sounds like growth before English retailer methods. (7)
- 26 Listen to, look back, and get to the show. (5)
- 27 Elevator breaks down but nothing's lost when Romeo comes in with a new driver. Then he's away! (9)
- 30 The quill bearer you audibly long for after meat.(9)
- 31 Vanilla deposits contain something useful to transmit energy in reverse. (5)

Down

- 1 Hold up back-pay of reputable practitioners initially. (4)
- 2 Another paint job might also keep out the cold. (8)
- 3 Get support and fly. (4)
- 4 Tory's recall is out of order for containment when everybody leaves. (8)
- 5 Peter perhaps at number 3? A stiffener is needed. (6)
- 6 Press an ipad, (not new) mess it up and it goes. (10)
- 7 If you begin to call her a silly tomboy, Evelyn may be untouched. (6)
- 8 Manipulates with American directions. (4)
- 13 Contained in flotsam up in the mountains you may find these creatures. (5)

Across

- 9 Tamar I've rated as one to be included. (5)
- 10 For non-fliers wealth follows a German direction. (9)
- 11 He could acquire a grip on the old Queen! (9)
- 12 Loses Saturday at the end of estimate leaving the idiots to appear. (5)
- 13 Look after confused Charlie Potter. (7)
- 15 Nearly too much made of the birds – here's one of them. (6)
- 17 A composition is offensive following legal method. (5)
- 18 To get a vegetable you are allowed to go back. (3)
- 20 There is more than enough maple to go round. (5)
- 22 A wise man goes round a company insuring saved stuff. (7)

- 14 One tax sure to be rubbish and irrelevant. (10)
- 16 Holds back supporting growths. (5)
- 19 A girl nearly kidnapped in error. (8)
- 21 Deter in advance of this (including delta). (8)
- 23 Uniform In existence by some transport. (6)
- 24 Involve something and It sounds as if November is at an end. (6)
- 26 Enthralled at the sound of a parcel. (4)
- 28 Look at the angles Pythagoras included! (4)
- 29 Romeo gets Spanish approval for the part. (4)

The Friends of Dorchester Abbey and the Beauforest Society

The Friends of Dorchester Abbey and the Beauforest Society are charities that support the Parochial Church Council but have a separate legal identity. They raise funds to be used exclusively for the restoration, maintenance, and improvements to the structure of the Church and the Abbey Guesthouse. The Friends have undertaken to support the proposed major project to improve facilities in the Abbey including toilet facilities within the building. They have promoted and supported social events such as concerts, flower and craft festivals and lectures. Many of the Friends are not regular churchgoers but feel an affinity with the Abbey and wish to support it.



The annual subscription for the Friends is a minimum of £25 or Life Membership of £300 per person. For the Beauforest Society the annual subscription is £140.

Details of the work of the Friends together with application forms can be found on the Dorchester Abbey website www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk and there are brochures on the Friends' notice board in the Abbey.

For further information contact the membership secretary: Honor Juniper. **01865 343228** or email friends@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Towards more affordable housing in our village

How often do we meet people with a local connection who would love to live in Dorchester but can't afford to? Young families look elsewhere for the extra bedroom. Adult children live with parents or move away. People with jobs nearby look elsewhere. And in the meantime, we worry whether our school, shop, churches, pubs and clubs will have the support they need to survive.

Affordable housing is a broad concept, meaning different things to different people. What we do know is that however we define it, it's supply in our village has fallen in the last twenty years. Several housing surveys over the last ten years have highlighted the problem and the well-supported 2023 Dorchester 2030 and Beyond survey led to the Parish Council identifying the need to increase the supply of affordable housing as one of the top four village priorities for the decade ahead.

Based on discussion of this priority at the May Annual Village Meeting, a group of residents led by Parish Councillor, John Taylor, have been exploring how to turn this commitment into practical action. Our research suggests that the answer may be a CLT!

A CLT is a Community Land Trust. This is a way in which a community can own land and work with others to develop it so that housing can be built and made available to local people at an affordable price, but where a level of control and value stays within the community in the longer term. The way this actually happens varies according to local need, resources and context. There are over 500 CLTs in existence or under development in the U.K., including at least 8 in Oxfordshire.

The May village meeting led to an informal steering group coming together to learn more. We have benefited from guidance by Community First Oxfordshire who specialise in encouraging affordable housing and we have heard about the experience in places like Thame and Hook Norton. We have talked with the District Council and a local housing association about what would be needed and what a partnership might involve. And we have our own ideas!

But, before we take things any further, we want to share our reflections so far with and hear views from our wider village community. If we are to go ahead as a community, it is vital that we have a shared understanding and commitment before any action is decided on or taken. So, we have organised an open meeting on **Tuesday 24 September at 7.00pm at the Abbey.**

As well as an explanation of how CLTs can work, we will hear from another local CLT which is making great progress. There will be a chance to hear about local ideas and to improve or add to them, including how we retain long term local control and link with our Parish Council.

By coming, you are not committing yourself to anything beyond the meeting; but you may be helping create future homes in our village that could benefit the next generation.

Do come!

Mark Goldring
on behalf of the Affordable Housing Steering Group
Mark.goldring@yahoo.co.uk



*Handel
Mozart
Beethoven*

*7pm Sunday 20th October
Dorchester Abbey*

*Sharon Warnes : Violin
Jeremy Boughton : Piano*

*Tickets £20/£15
www.dorchesterabbey.org.uk*



YAMAHA MUSIC SCHOOL



You are warmly invited to our free music taster sessions on **Sunday 13 October** at Matrix Arts Centre, Sutton Courtenay

Music courses for 2 to 7 year olds



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Dorchester Parish Council Affordable Housing Working Group

Help us to bring more Affordable Housing to our great village



A Community Land Trust for Dorchester:
What is it, what do we need and
how can we make something happen?

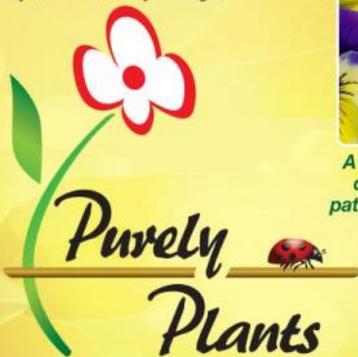
All are invited to a meeting
Tuesday 24th September
7 to 9pm in the Abbey

Hear from local villages that are making progress, explore ideas relevant to
our own village and share your views.

Visit dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk for more info
or contact John Taylor on 07500 118700 or
john.taylor@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk

Free refreshments will be provided

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From the Chair of the Parish Council

I'm pleased to report that all parts of the Dorchester 2030 plan are proceeding at a pace. Some will bear fruit earlier than others of course but it's been great to see some residents getting involved alongside parish councillors, bringing their talents and enthusiasm to bear. Thank you to each of them. As a reminder our four workstreams are:

1. Develop a Nature & Wildlife plan, including water quality
2. Develop solutions to the traffic issues, including noise, safety and car parking
3. Assess and progress future potential uses of the Pavilion plus refurbishment plans
4. Develop a plan for additional 10-20 Affordable Homes

I won't provide a running commentary on each but I will keep you updated as and when we reach interesting points. This month I want to highlight something covered in more detail in a longer article this month in DN by the Affordable Housing workstream. One of the options used by some parishes and towns is to create a Community Land Trust. This sounds very nerdy but it might be a way of ensuring affordable housing stays under community control rather than lost to the general housing market over time. Early days in our thinking, it's complicated and definitely no decisions for now. But please do read the article and come along to the meeting on **Tuesday 24 September** in the Abbey at **7.00pm** if you are interested in how it might work and what it might mean.

There are a couple of topics which are regulars in our Parish Council mailboxes, both of Jenny, our parish clerk, and of your councillors. So, I wanted to address them here to see if we can help each other with them.

Firstly we get regular queries and comments on hedges, both how and when they should be controlled to balance supporting nature alongside ensuring accessibility on foot and for cars. I hope, in due course, that our Nature Recovery Plan will offer guidance to residents that want to use it, on how and when to maintain your hedge. In the meantime, a collective plea. If you have a hedge and it borders a road, pavement or footpath then it is **your** responsibility to maintain it so others can go about their business. OCC look after most roadside verges and the Parish Council looks after our land (the allotments, rec and cemetery) and also some 'no mans land' areas and, of course, Green DoTs do some specific projects as well. But more widely it is for each of us to control our hedges. Thank you to those who have been doing this diligently, particularly this summer when the rain has encouraged growth. If we can all do our bit that would be much appreciated and will save people commenting and our Clerk having to chase people.

The other topic is street parking. It's part of modern life that as we own more cars and those cars get bigger, it is a challenge in an old village to find space to park conveniently. However, the road regulations do still apply despite these pressures. With some input from OCC we will be looking at whether we can improve how we balance the various interests of car owners and the wider community but, as someone who was recently on crutches and experienced it myself, as a starter, can I please make a plea to reasonableness. Parking so that your vehicle blocks pavement users, particularly those with pushchairs or wheelchairs or buggies is both against regulations but also frustrates fellow residents. So, please park considerately, there is usually space for parking within a short distance except on those rare occasions when there is a big event on which is why we use overflow car parks on those occasions. Thank you for your support.

And, finally, the Parish Council has refreshed our website, **dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk**. The website is the best way for you to know what is going on and communicate your views. And you can now subscribe to receive updates on news, to see agendas and minutes from Parish Council meetings. We have a bit more to add to the site but we are pleased we have started on that journey.

Mike Corran
Chair, Dorchester Parish Council

Parish Council Notices

Monthly Meetings September, October 2024

The September Parish Council Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 11 September**, the October meeting on **Wednesday 9 October**.

Council meetings commence at 7.30 p.m. and are held in the back meeting room of the Village Hall.

The Agenda will be posted on Village notice boards and on the new Parish Council website **www.dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk** - three clear days in advance of the meeting.

All Parish Council meetings are open to the public. A resident who wishes to raise any matter of concern is welcome to do so at the start of the meeting.

Contacting the Parish Council

The Parish Clerk is Jenny Welham. She can be contacted on **07444 239077** or at **parishclerk@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk**.

Cllr Mike Corran, the Chairman, can be contacted via **chairman@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk**

The Parish Council's new website is **www.dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk**

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From your District Councillor... ...Robin Bennett



Council becomes a social housing landlord for the first time in decades

A key aim of our administration has been to ensure genuinely affordable and sustainable homes are provided in the right places.

Thanks to a significant amount of hard work and dedication, a major project led by our Housing team means the council has become a registered social landlord for the first time since 1997 – when SODC's council housing was transferred to Soha - and can now directly provide genuinely affordable, high-quality homes to people in need.

We're launching with 27 refurbished homes ready for people living in South Oxfordshire who need them most. A mixture of houses and flats, including new heating systems and double glazing to make these homes as energy efficient as possible.

Meanwhile, we're preparing a planning application to directly build nine apartments in central Didcot, the first council housebuilding project in the district this century!

Take a look at the graphic below showing some of the key achievements and plans our teams have put in place to provide affordable, sustainable homes and prevent homelessness in South Oxfordshire:

Find out more about what support the council offers on our affordable housing pages:

<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/housing/affordable-housing/>

Councillor Community Grant Scheme

The 2024/25 Councillor Community Grant Scheme is now open.

The funds can be used to support local 'not for profit' organisations whose work benefits residents, now also including parish councils.

The funding is ideal for projects which are relatively low in costs and are expected to be completed within a year. They start at £250 with a £5,000 upper limit. The total project cost of applications for capital projects must be £15,000 or less. Feel free to contact me if you think you have a suitable project that needs funding. More info at:

<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/community-support/grants>

Check out the Oxfordshire online cycling map:

<https://cyclingukoxfordshire.org/oxmap/>

Cycling UK Oxfordshire has recently launched the **Oxfordshire Online Cycling Map** - showing the best routes for new or inexperienced cyclists. The map was created by campaign groups and experienced cyclists including South Oxfordshire's cycling champion, Cllr Andrea Powell, aiming to encourage less confident, novice, and young cyclists to understand how they can cycle safely around their towns, villages, and communities, and to give more experienced cyclists new routes to try.

CIL Funding approved for Berinsfield

Happy to say that extra Community Infrastructure funds have been made available to the community, with £15,000 to support the delivery of partnership projects within Berinsfield:

- £13,000 to Berinsfield Parish Council, towards the creation of a pocket park and forest school space at Abbey Woods Spinney and installation of a new pump track and repairs and expansion of the existing skatepark
- £2,000 to The Church of St Mary and St Berin (the Church) towards the pocket park

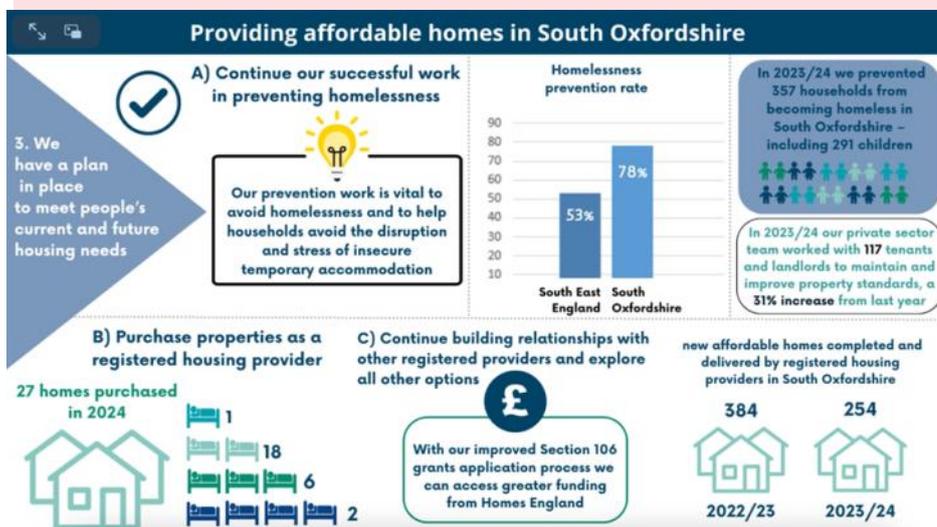
Folk fusions at Cornerstone

Our council-owned Arts Centre, Cornerstone in Didcot, is set to host an exciting series of folk performances this autumn, starting with the virtuosic duo Lulo Reinhardt & Yuliya Lonskaya on **19 September**. Following this, the Gigspanner Big Band graces the stage on **23 October**.

Rounding out the season, Christina Adeln and Alex Patterson perform on **7 November**.

See what else is happening at Cornerstone at <https://www.cornerstone-arts.org>

Robin.Bennett@southoxon.gov.uk
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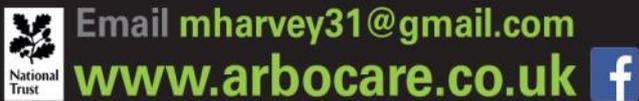
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From your County Councillor... ...Robin Bennett



Water and flooding

At the recent July full council meeting the council passed a motion of 'no confidence' in Thames Water, which also requested the leader to write to new Secretary of State at DEFRA, Steve Reed MP. Now there's a new government, and 2 county councillors now sitting as MPs (including our own new local MP), perhaps we'll see some changes!

The letter stated: "We would like to see the new government urgently place regulatory and administrative limits on Thames Water, suspending bonuses and bringing charges for polluting the ecosystem. The government should urgently evaluate the pros and cons of renationalising Thames Water."

It also called for an inquiry into Thames Water's 'Water Resource Management Plan', which relates to the very large reservoir being planned near Abingdon.

We also passed a separate motion requesting tighter rules on building in flood-risk areas and more powers and funding for local flood authorities.

I've also just been voted in as vice chair of the Place Scrutiny Committee, and we'll be looking closely at flood response preparedness in a forthcoming meeting.

Separately, we recently had a scrutiny meeting with the new Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police; we asked them what they are doing about speeding and road safety, and asked them to work more closely alongside the council in local areas like ours which are affected by speeding.

A new political map for Oxfordshire

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has published final recommendations setting out new electoral arrangements for Oxfordshire. The report and interactive mapping is available on the LGBCE website.

<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/oxfordshire>

A draft order to start the formal approval process will be laid in parliament to provide for the new electoral arrangements becoming effective for the county elections due in May 2025. The current Berinsfield & Garsington division gets chopped into 3, due to planned population increases over the coming years, as follows:

Culham, Clifton Hampden & Burcot, The Baldons, Garsington, Sandford, Nuneham Courtenay, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard stay as they are; Dorchester and Warborough move in with Benson and Crowmarsh; and Stadhampton, Chiselhampton and Newington go in with Chalgrove.

Oxfordshire Pension Fund recognised for responsible investing

The Oxfordshire Pension Fund has successfully applied to be a signatory to the **UK Stewardship Code** for the second year in a row. The code is administered by the Financial Reporting Council and sets high standards of stewardship for those investing money on behalf of UK savers and pensioners.

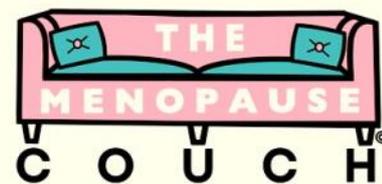
Becoming a signatory is recognition of the work the fund has undertaken in recent years to become a responsible investor, actively using its voice and influence to encourage companies to act in a way that recognises the importance of environmental, social and governance issues, and delivers financial benefits. You can **read more about our approach to responsible investment** on the OCC website.

Robin Bennett

robin.bennett@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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Cinema: All regular performances normally start at 7:30pm unless stated otherwise. Please note that we will start on time and that latecomers will only be allowed in after the start of the film where there is no disruption to sitting patrons. This means that we may have to reseat some latecomers. For Live Screenings we reserve the right to seat latecomers in the Curtis Room where there is a large screen relay. The bar and auditorium will open from 7.00pm so there's plenty of time to collect drinks beforehand.

Films with subtitles will be shown on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons at 2.30pm.

Please see website (www.cornexchange.org.uk) for updates.

Tickets £10 for Adults and £5 for under 15s unless otherwise stated.

September

Sun 1	Against All Odds (U) 7.30pm and 8.15pm *
Mon 2	Trap (15)
Tues 3	Trap (15)
Wed 4	Trap (15) 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Thurs 5	Trap (15)
Sat 7	Gosford Park (15)
Sun 8	It Ends with Us (12A)
Mon 9	It Ends with Us (12A)
Wed 11	It Ends with Us (12A) 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Fri 13	Widow Cliquot (12A)
Sat 14	Kensuke's Kingdom (PG) 2.30pm
Sat 14	Widow Cliquot (12A) 7.30pm
Sun 15	Widow Cliquot (12A)
Mon 16	Widow Cliquot (12A)
Tues 17	Blink Twice (15)
Wed 18	Blink Twice (15) 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Thurs 19	Blink Twice (15)
Fri 20	Firebrand (12A)
Sat 21	Borderlands (12A)
Sat 21	Firebrand (15)

Live Screening

Tuesday, 10 Sept, 6:30pm

Royal Opera House, The Marriage of Figaro

Tickets £18 (adults), £15 (seniors), £10 (under 18s)

Thursday, 12 Sept, 7pm

National Theatre, Prima Facia (15)

Tickets £18 (adults), £15 (seniors), £10 (under 18s)

Tuesday 24 Sept, 7pm

Miss Saigon (15) (25th Anniversary Show)

Tickets £12 (adults), £10 (seniors), £8 (under 18s)

Live on Stage

The Wallingford Agatha Christie murder mystery weekend, in collaboration with Wallingford museum and Wallingford Town Council

Friday 6 Sept, 7:30pm

The Mysteries of Miss Marple,

Talk by Mark Aldridge,

Tickets £15

Saturday, 7 Sept, 12:30pm

Two one act Agatha Christie plays by Wallingford School, tickets £5

Saturday, 7 Sept, 3:30pm

A is for Arsenic, the poisons of Agatha Christie,

Talk by Kathryn Harkup, tickets £15

Sunday, 8 Sept, 3.00pm

How to write a Thriller

Talk by Oxfordshire crime and conspiracy novelist, Colin Wade.

Free, but reserve tickets in advance.

Tuesday 10 September to Saturday 14 September

The Last Five Years

All tickets £15

Written and Composed by Jason Robert Brown, Musical Direction by Sue Huntingford-Ledger, Stage Direction by Tom Mackriell.

The Sinodun Players present this critically acclaimed off Broadway contemporary show in the intimacy of The Corn Exchange's Studio Theatre. It is an emotionally powerful and intimate musical, which has captivated audiences and critics alike earning cult status. It has been performed in many productions around the world and a film adaptation was released in 2015. This production stars Freya Jacklin-Edward (BBC Singers, Session singer for major films plus Principal Opera Roles) & Poppy Jackson (Actor and musical theatre singer) as Cathy with Andy Rainsford (Oxford Operatic Singer & Actor) & Jake Willett (Trained at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts and Actor/Singer for over 20 years) as Jamie supported by a four-piece orchestra.

Synopsis: Cathy, a struggling actress, and Jamie, a budding novelist on the brink of wild success, are 20-somethings in New York who meet, fall in love, marry, and divorce over the span of five years. Cathy tells the story from the end of their marriage; Jamie begins from when they first meet. As the musical unfolds, Jamie shares his story from the spark of their relationship's giddy beginning, whilst Cathy's side is told in reverse, from the end of their turbulent partnership. The two characters cross paths just once, as their stories collide during the middle of the show.

Winner of What's On Stage Award for Best off-West Production 2017.

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'A knock out & a two-handed tour-de-force' – Arts Desk

Day by day

Sun 1 Sept	Trinity 14 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Sung Eucharist
Sat 7 Sept	Cherwell Cricket League Dorchester 2 vs Challow and Childrey 3 12.30pm Recreation Ground
Sun 8 Sept	Trinity 15 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Pets Family Service
Wed 11 Sept	Chiropodist Village Hall Appointment only; see page 17 Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
Sat 14 Sept	Autumn Flower Show Staging 9.00am to 10.15am Viewing 2.30pm to 4.00pm Village Hall Ride + Stride for Churches
Sun 15 Sept	Trinity 16 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Morning Worship 5.00pm Holy Communion and Confirmation Service

For current information about other services
at Dorchester Abbey see
www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk



Sun
22 Sept **Trinity 17**
8.00am
Holy Communion (BCP)

10.30am
Sung Eucharist

Tues
24 July **Affordable Housing Steering
Group**
Open meeting
7.00pm
Dorchester Abbey

Hemprocroft Allotments
AGM
Village Hall
7.30pm

Wed
25 Sept **Dorchester Historical Society**
Dr Edward Caswell,
*An introduction to the Portable
Antiquities Scheme*
7.30pm
Dorchester Abbey

Sun
29 Sept **Trinity 18**
8.00am
Holy Communion (BCP)

For St Birinus RC Church go to:
www.stbirinus.co.uk

Weekly events

Tuesday	Coffee Morning 11.00am Dorchester Abbey Abbey Bell Ringers Practice 7.30pm
Wednesday	New Baby and Toddler Time 9.30-10.45am Dorchester Abbey Mobile Post Office 2.00-3.00pm but may vary Outside Co-op
Thursday	Wellbeing Walks 10.00am Outside Co-op Pickleball St Birinus School playground
Friday	Abbey Junior Choir Practice 6.00pm Abbey Senior Choir Practice 7.00pm

See also the Parish Council website:
www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Weekly events in the Village Hall

Tuesday	Move Together with Jo 1.30pm Yoga 7.30pm
Wednesday	Busby Dance for children 3.15pm Pilates 5.30pm Tango 7.30pm

See
dorchesteronthamesvillagehall.org.uk/
[#calendar](https://twitter.com/dorchesteronthamesvillagehall) for additional one-off events.

Parish Registers

Baptisms

21 July Camilla Dawn Okumi

Weddings

29 June Ciara Anne Hagan and
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27 July Teresa Ann Joseph and
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Funerals

24 June Canon John Yeoman Crowe

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Berinsfield Health Centre: **01865 340558**
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HIRE OF DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

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Please telephone at least 24 hours in advance to arrange collection of the key.

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Wed - 10.27, 14.49; Fri - 09.41, 10.43, 12.21, 14.15.

From Wallingford: Mon - 09.23, 11.50, 13.35;
Wed - 11.50, 13.35; Fri - 09.25, 12.00, 12.15, 14.05.

To Didcot Station: Mon - 09.33, 12.00, 13.44
Wed - 12.00, 13.44.

From Didcot Station: Mon - 10.04, 12.25, 14.25; Wed - 10.04, 14.25.

See: www.goingforwardbuses.com

Other Bus Services

Service X40 every 30 minutes from the bypass at the end of Drayton Road to Oxford and Wallingford. Information about bus services, is available from www.traveline.info and **08712 002233**.

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www.wallingford.volunteercentre@gmail.com

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Clerk is Jenny Welham. She can be contacted on parishclerk@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk

SODC CONTACT

Telephone **01235 422422**
Email: enquiries@southoxon.gov.uk
South Oxfordshire District Council
Abbey House
Abbey Close
Abingdon OX14 3JE

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Dorchester Rectory
01865 340007

ABBEY E-MAIL:

admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk
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ABBEY WEBSITE

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Dorchester Abbey Museum E-mail
museum@dorchester-abbey.org.uk



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Tues 17 Sept **Green**
Tues 24 Sept **Black**

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The recycling centre at Oakley Wood (off the A4130) is open 8.00am – 5.00pm seven days a week. Check website www.oxford.gov.uk/

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Mozart

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