

# **The Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay Newsletter**



**October 2014**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**THE BALDONS AND NUNEHAM COURTENAY PARISH  
ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR CHRISTMAS PANTO  
AT THE GLOBAL RETREAT CENTRE**

# **INTO THE WOODS**

**FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER**

**7PM - 8:45PM**

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL:**

**Please email (how many adults and children)**

**[info@globalretreatcentre.org](mailto:info@globalretreatcentre.org)**



**BRAHMA KUMARIS  
WORLD SPIRITUAL UNIVERSITY (UK)**

## FROM THE VICAR, REVD PAUL CAWTHORNE

To be a pilgrim

It has been a pleasure to be part of the support team for the inauguration of the Thames Pilgrimage Trail being organised by Oxford diocese and with walking led by Bishop John as part of his final chosen activities before he retires. Steering our team rector Sue Booy's boat down the river while watching the pilgrims walking ahead has given some much-needed mental space to reflect on the traditional activity of pilgrimage.

There seems a resurgence of interest in pilgrimage as a human response to the occasionally claustrophobic side of modern life (which is paradoxically hypermobile and increasingly sedentary....resulting in disorientation and obesity among more subtle signs of malaise). It produces fresh impetus in the human spirit for focussed movement and proper depth, unsatiated by the instant fixes of our generation. Bruce Chatwin's book, *Songlines*, reminded us a couple of decades back, as Laurens van der Post did before, how primeval and essential such themes are in moving beyond the unsatisfying surfaces of life and the lesson is slowly but surely being absorbed.

Bishop John led us in opening worship with this prayer at the riverside in the glorious Oxfordshire vale surrounded by birdsong:

Lord Jesus Christ, son of the Living God, We thank you for the privilege of being in this place, Make us aware of your presence, help us to follow your way, And give us the gift of rejoicing in your creation. Amen.

It grounded us, located us somewhere specific at the beginning of the journey. Enjoying the place, being open to movement, seeking to travel further into sacred realities and divine reality, moving out from all we take for granted.

Then off the pilgrims set, on a journey with echoes from Chaucer to Rome, from T.S. Eliot to Santiago de Compostela. I wondered how Birinus must have felt as he obeyed his own mysterious sense of calling and set out from the comforts of Genoa for the wild land of the Saxons. I wondered who of our present-day travellers was walking with an agenda of forgetting and who with an agenda of seeking new life. It was a shock to find that Bishop John had had a stent fitted the previous week and so there was an element of danger associated with his preparedness for physical exertion so soon. I thought of his sacrificial ministry in recent years fighting a corner for a gentler, nobler notion of education amid utilitarian coarseness - just as big a struggle as that Birinus faced on his journey when there were wolves in the woodlands?

It was good to hear from some walkers that they were already at the beginning of a new life, having left successful secular careers to prepare for the burdens of priestly ministry, and were walking to strengthen their inner lives for self-offering ahead. It was good to hear that for some it was an offering to the Creator for all that they had enjoyed in life and so was more a completion journey that Eliot would have saluted. For some it was a step into the unknown, a venerable pattern started when Abram left his fertile fields to step out in faith with his flocks in response to God's beckoning: "Go from your country

and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.....and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing" (Genesis 12).

Such journeying on foot with sandwiches and pack is often more costly than an airplane hop with plastic food and heated towels. But as we were taught long ago by an itinerant preacher, it is often in giving that we receive, in stepping out that we find our true home.

Best wishes

Paul

*The Revd Paul Cawthorne is Team vicar for The Baldons, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard: e-mail: bbdparishoffice@rocketmail.com and tel: 01865 340460.*

## **RIDE+STRIDES**

Thanks go to our 5 intrepid Baldons cyclists Stephen Dance, Ian Gillespie, Laurence Attewill, Peter Burke, & Paul Ardern who took the long way round to Oxford via Elsfield and the Abingdon Arms at Beckley, (10 churches) with one (Stephen) taking the circular route home via Cumnor to take in a further 18.

From rural parish churches steeped in history, Victorian edifices, tiny Baptist chapels and Eastern Orthodox churches to brand new purpose built facilities which accommodate 200 worshippers each Sunday...all opened their doors in a common faith and friendship. Ian had a birthday, Laurence's ancient bike survived and Paul, on his first outing in the event, won the prize for the most tea, cake and chat. Sponsorship still being accepted – we need the money....

Stephen Dance (edited by Debbie Dance)

### **AUTUMN FANCIES**

**A CONCERT OF SINGING WITH WINE AND CANAPES**

**RAISING MONEY FOR 'MUSIC FOR AUTISM' AND ST HELEN'S  
CHURCH, BENSON**

**7.30PM, 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, ST HELEN'S CHURCH, BENSON**

**TICKETS ON THE DOOR OR**

**FOR TICKETS IN ADVANCE PLEASE CONTACT SARA ON 343567**

## BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### Planning Applications.

SODC have recently approved the application for a change of use from offices to a single domestic dwelling for Cardinal House on Baldon Lane. The other application for an alcohol licence to support a possible cookery school was withdrawn.

Two applications for security lighting and the building of a new ticket office at the Harcourt Arboretum have been supported by the Parish Council and await SODC decision.

### Baldon Feast

Another hugely successful feast was held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August thanks to the efforts of the Slaney family in planning and organising the day and the team of villagers who helped with various activities on the day.

There was something for everyone, games, music, dancers, teas & cakes, beer etc and more food stalls than ever before. Not to mention the exhibits, crafts stalls and the fair. Altogether a great afternoon attended by villagers and people from far and wide.

Ralph and Phylis have indicated they want to hand over the organising of the feast next year to others in the village so please read the separate note and proposal from the Parish Council.

### SODC Governance Review

SODC have now confirmed that the land and properties on the west side of the A4074 currently in Marsh Baldon Parish will transfer to Nuneham Courtenay Parish in the spring of 2015 in association with the Parish Council elections which are also due to take place.

### Posts at Manor Farm entrance

Following the concerns that were expressed by villagers about the posts which had been erected on the triangle at Manor Farm entrance councillors had a useful meeting with the land agent for Queens College who subsequently, and with the cooperation of the tenants, have had the posts removed.

### Date of next meeting

Tuesday November 11<sup>th</sup>. 7.30 pm Village Hall

## **BALDONS VILLAGE HALL**

**The Baldons Village Hall is for everyone's use: To book, please contact Ali or Darren on: 01865 340264 or [dbaber@rm.com](mailto:dbaber@rm.com)**

## **NUNEHAM COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

Nuneham Village Hall committee would like to thank John Clibbon for mowing the grass at the hall: it is a great help.

# NUNEHAM COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## 1 Planning

The last month has seen the submission of a number of applications:

### **Brewer's Garage – replacement of showroom with flats (P14/S2431/FUL and P14/S2432/LB)**

Listed Building and planning consent for removal of existing showroom and replacement with four number two bedroom flats. The 'Old Smithy' building is retained and refurbished with a tearoom/'deli' on the ground floor and offices above. The proposals owe much to the comments made by parishioners at the time of the applications for the new houses on the garage site and the Village Plan Steering Group's efforts to see the re-establishment of a shop in the village. The scheme has been presented at PC and VPSG meetings. The PC was broadly supportive of the proposals at the pre-application stage and is currently considering its formal response. The closing date for consultations is 8 October 2014.

### **Brewer's Garage – discharge of conditions related to the previously approved development of six houses (P14/S2943/DIS)**

Formal application has to be made to discharge conditions related to a planning consent. The owner has been working through these and an application has now been made to satisfy a number of those conditions in addition to those already made. The application seeks discharge of conditions related to materials, joinery, landscaping and storm water drainage. The Parish Council is not normally consulted on the discharge of conditions, however it will review the proposals as these were matters on which comments were made at the time of the original application.

### **Arboretum – Ticket Office (P14/S2596/FUL)**

Though technically outside of the Parish the Parish Council has specifically asked to be consulted on the proposal because of the proximity of the Arboretum to the Parish. The application is for a small, barrel-shaped timber, glass and grass-roofed building which would provide better facilities for those selling tickets and providing information than the current 'Pitt Rivers' caravan. The Parish Council has been given until 1 October to respond.

### **Old Post Office – conversion of garage to ancillary residential accommodation (P14/S2948/HH)**

An application has been lodged to convert a garage (former store) at the rear of the premises to an annex ancillary to the residential part of the property. The consultation period for responses ends on 15 October 2014.

All the planning documentation is available online via the SODC website ([www.southoxon.gov.uk](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk)) - search for the 'planning' pages – look for the option that allows the user to search for a planning application; the above references allow for a search by reference number.. Copies of those on which the Parish Council is formally consulted can be inspected by arrangement with the Chair (see below). If you have any

specific comments or queries these can be made directly to SODC and/or via the Parish Council – we are keen to know the views of parishioners.

## **2 Meetings**

A meeting will be held in October. At the time of writing the date has still to be finalised. We would be delighted to hear from parishioners who have issues they wish the PC to discuss. Ideally these should be notified to the Clerk, or a councillor in advance of the meeting. At the next meeting we expect to discuss estate signage, governance matters, outcome of the audit of the Annual Return, issues arising from Village Plan Steering Group meetings.

## **3 Councillor vacancies**

There has been some initial interest in the vacant council post. Parish Council elections are due in May next year – so it is not too early for others to consider whether they want to represent the Parish in the future.

## **4 Contacts**

Chair: Colin George. 01865 343767. 39 Nuneham Courtenay, OX44 9NY.  
colin.george@virgin.net.

Clerk: Julia Evans. 01235 833466. Moorcroft, The Greenway, West Hendred, OX12 8RG. New e-mail address for the Clerk: nunehamcourtenay.clerk@gmail.com.

### **A THANK YOU FROM JUNE HARRIS**

I would like to thank everyone who sent flowers, cards and letters in memory of Geoff, the family and myself were touched that so many people have fond memories of him and his dogs. Thank you all again, June

### **OXFORDSHIRE SOUTH AND VALE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU COMMUNITY TRAINING PROGRAMME**

The Community Training Team organises inter-active workshops in the community on managing money. The sessions are not about giving advice but aim to enable participants to understand and take responsibility for their money. They cover issues such as budgeting, credit, borrowing, banking, avoiding debt and how to deal with debt. All the sessions are free, last about one hour and can be customised to individual needs.

The programme has now been operating for over four years and covers the Didcot, Henley, Thame and Wallingford areas. In the next academic year, we have been invited to run sessions in eight secondary schools in these areas on “money matters”. For many of the schools it will be the fifth year that we have run sessions.

We have also organised some highly memorable, interesting, thought provoking, amusing and satisfying sessions for prisons, children’s centres, the forces, people with learning difficulties, disadvantaged teenagers, people working on the front line and senior citizens groups. If you would like to book a workshop, know more about the Programme OR join the Community Training Team as a trainer, please contact: carolpedrick@hotmail.com.



## **FIREWORKS NIGHT**

*BONFIRE, FIREWORKS, FUNFAIR, MUSIC, BAR, MULLED WINE, FOOD AND MORE*

**SATURDAY 1st NOVEMBER**

**Early Evening**

**ALL WELCOME**

**MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY NOW!**

*THE SOBELL CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR*

*at*

*RADLEY COLLEGE*

*Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 10am – 5pm*

*Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 10am – 4.30pm*

*\* Over 60 stalls \* Refreshments \* Unique Gift Ideas*



Come and support Sobell House Hospice Charity

[www.sobellhospicecharity.org.uk](http://www.sobellhospicecharity.org.uk)

Charity number 1118646



## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

Test pit number 73 of the Wallingford Garden Archaeology programme, in association with the Burgh to Borough project, will take place between Friday 24th and Sunday 26th October starting at 10am each morning.



The test pit will be sited behind Wallingford Library, very close to the Bullcroft which is a Statutory Monument. Previous excavations in the area have discovered 14th Century floor tiles belonging to the Holy Trinity Priory, and large numbers of Saxon and medieval pot sherd.

The librarian has kindly given permission for the public to visit the site during the excavation. The entrance is the garden gate immediately next to the library entrance.  
[www.twhas.org.uk](http://www.twhas.org.uk)

## **THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE ANARCHY (1139-52) WALLINGFORD AND CROWMARSH IN CONTEXT**

October's talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) will be by Prof Oliver Creighton and Dr Duncan Wright. They will present 'The Archaeology of the Anarchy (1139-52): Wallingford and Crowmarsh in context'.

Oliver Creighton is now well known in Wallingford as part of the 'Burgh to Borough' team which has studied the town over the past decade. He now heads a new project looking at changes to the landscape during the civil war ("Anarchy") of Stephen's reign, in which Wallingford Castle played a decisive role on behalf of Stephen's rivals. The primary anti-castle the king built to besiege Wallingford at Crowmarsh was rediscovered during development in the old Wilder site. This and other sites of the period will feature in the talk.

This talk will be held on Friday 10th October, 7.45 for 8pm at Wallingford Town Hall. Visitors (£3) are most welcome.  
[www.twhas.org.uk](http://www.twhas.org.uk)

## **FUND RAISING OPPORTUNITY!**

Dorchester Abbey Tea Rooms is a successful venture providing a welcome to the Abbey with home-made scones and cakes in beautiful and unique surroundings. Every year the Abbey PCC donates a substantial amount of money to charities and we are able to do this largely as a result of the money taken in the Tea Room.

From next year onwards we are extending our opening hours so that the Tea Room will be open from 2.30pm to 5pm on summer Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays. As this gives us additional hours we would like to extend the way that we support charities by offering YOUR charity the chance to run the Tea Room for an afternoon or weekend keeping the profit you make when running it for your charity.

This opportunity is open to any local charity / combination of charities willing to operate the Tea Room on the Saturday or Sunday of any 'second weekend' during the summer of 2015. We will be asking that the Tea Room is operated on its normal basis (i.e. opening times, prices and the basic menu to be retained) and that you report back on the money made for your charity for our records. Last year (2013) the average gross takings over a weekend were £488.

More information and expressions of interest may be made to the tea room team and we will be inviting those who sign up to a special 'training tea'!!

Sue Booy and Carole Treadaway (on behalf of the PCC and Tea Room team): 01865 340007

## **NEARLY NEW SALE, SATURDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2014, 10-12 NOON, LONG WITTENHAM VILLAGE HALL**

Long Wittenham Pre-School is holding a Nearly New Sale of top quality baby and children clothes, toys, games, equipment and maternity clothes on Saturday 11th October 2014, from 10-12 noon at the Long Wittenham Village Hall. 50p entry. If you are after a bargain please come along and get there nice and early!

Alternatively if you want to make some extra cash and support the Pre-School and your house is full of baby and children s clothes, toys, games and/or equipment that are good as new contact us to get your seller code and more details about how to become a seller. Sellers keep 60% of the sale price for all items sold, 70% for items over £20. Or if you would like to donate items to be sold at the Nearly New Sale please get in touch and we may even be able to arrange collection!

If you would like to come along, sell, donate items or need more information please contact Angela Green by emailing [info@longwittenhampreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@longwittenhampreschool.co.uk).

## VERTICAL HABITATS

Vertical habitats are a neglected consideration of wildlife gardening. It can be a brick wall, a fence; or the side of a timber shed. These habitats can be very varied providing shady, damp sites or dry and sunny; micro-habitats will be common. They provide food and shelter for many species with very different needs.

Cracks in sunny walls provide shelter for invertebrates surfaces of brick provide basking places for butterflies; old masonry provide opportunities for harvestmen, and solitary bees. Climbing shrubs provide nest sites for robins and habitats for spiders; and flowering shrubs supply nectar for hoverflies, moths and butterflies.

If you have a cold North and northeast facing brick or masonry wall it is possible to cultivate shrubs and climbers which provide nectar, food and shelter for insects, birds and small mammals year round. Once mature, nest boxes can be sited within shrubs.

So there you go, have a look around your garden, habitats are not just down there, below knee levels.

Happy Gardening  
Stuart Mabbutt  
Wildlife Gardening Specialist  
01865 747243  
www.stuartmabbuttgardeningltd.com

## **WALLINGFORD GARDENING CLUB: PLANT HUNTING IN THE YUNNAN PROVINCE IN CHINA**

Following a wonderful summer of garden visits the Wallingford Gardening Club is now returning to its programme of autumn and winter talks.

At the October meeting of the Wallingford Gardening Club, Richard Thornton will be following in the footsteps of George Forrest who was one of the first explorers of China's remote south western province of Yunnan, generally regarded as the most [biodiverse](#) province in the country.

Richard Thornton is the chairman of a local gardening club, an artist, photographer and *plantaholic*. He is also a member of the Wessex Rhododendron Group committee.

The talk will be held at **Ridgeway Community Church, Wallingford** at 7.30pm on Thursday 9th October. Visitors very welcome £2.

*Advance Notice of future events in 2014:- 13th November - Butterflies and Orchids of the upper Thames region, a talk by Malcolm Broadsword*



## FROM JOHN HOWELL MP

When Parliament resumed after the summer break one of the first things to be debated was the cost of parking at local hospitals. This is an issue often raised with me. I was therefore pleased that ahead of the debate the Secretary of State for Health announced Guidance on the matter in a document titled ‘NHS patient, visitor and staff car parking principles.’ The Guidance sets clear ground rules giving government expectations and against which members of the public can hold their local hospitals to account. I appreciate that it is a difficult issue for our hospitals seeking to balance genuine demand and to deter abuse of the space together with the constraints on budgets and the need to ensure that parking covers its own costs. However I am also well aware that for those from the many areas in my constituency who have no choice but to use a private car to access the hospital. I have written to our main hospitals to seek an update on how they are responding to this.

During this recess I am on my annual ‘Village Tour.’ This is a time when I particularly try to get to those places in the constituency where it can be more difficult to meet with people; the smaller places where there are fewer opportunities. It is in addition to the visits I normally make during the course of the year gives time to explore some of the issues worrying people and those issues uppermost on their minds. This year the tour takes a different format so that I have longer to talk with people. It concentrates on meetings with several of the smaller parish councils, some of them with other residents as open meetings. I am also taking time to call at individual houses in some places. Parish Councils are an important part of local government and I want to ensure that I understand the challenges faced by them especially in the rural areas. This is an important time for leaving Westminster behind and strengthening the connection between what I do in Westminster which affects us all. I hope to continue this later in the year to meet others that I am not able to get to in these weeks.

Whether we meet or not in September the electronic means are available all year round and I am happy to exchange views on a range of issues – though it is inevitable that we will not always agree! I also publish a number of regular electronic briefings on specific issues or for general update on what is going on in parliament and the constituency. If you would like to be added to my circulation list just drop me and email at the address below.

For more information my website is regularly updated and offers information on my work both in Westminster and in the constituency. The address is [www.johnhowellmp.com](http://www.johnhowellmp.com) In addition, if you would like to subscribe to my free e-newsletter please e mail me at: [john.howell@oxfordshireconservatives.com](mailto:john.howell@oxfordshireconservatives.com). You can also follow me on twitter [@johnhowellmp](https://twitter.com/johnhowellmp) or on Facebook [www.facebook.com/john.howellmp](https://www.facebook.com/john.howellmp)

## FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE

### GROWTH DEAL HERALDS NEW ERA FOR OXFORDSHIRE ECONOMY

The Deal will see at least **£108.6 million invested in Oxfordshire** with £15.7 million confirmed in the first year. In addition, as part of the Government's on-going commitment to the Oxfordshire LEP, it has provided an indicative award of a further £92.9million of funding from 2016/17 onwards. This Deal will help to create up to 5,700 jobs, allow over 4,000 homes to be built and generate over £100m in public and private investment.

The key features of the deal are:

- Investing in substantial measures to **reduce the risk of flooding**, so that businesses can continue to operate, roads and railway lines are kept clear and people can be confident that their homes and businesses won't be damaged;
- Investing jointly with the University of Oxford in a new Centre for Applied Superconductivity, which will bring university professors and entrepreneurs together to **collaborate on exciting developments in fields as diverse as computing, cryogenics, x-rays and MRI scanning and electricity storage**;
- Investing with the City of Oxford College, and Abingdon and Witney College, in **state-of-the-art skills centres** that will train local people in science, engineering and technology, providing them with the skills they need to get a job;
- Significant investment in **better transport links** including roads, parking and cycling networks – joining up Oxfordshire's world class universities with its businesses and helping people get to where they need to be faster;
- Additional investment into the Oxfordshire Growth Hub to **help local businesses** access support and make the connections they need to grow.

The Oxfordshire Growth Deal is part of a **national £12 billion long-term programme to revitalise local economies**. The deals are the latest and greatest example of the British economy being rebuilt from the bottom up, and sharing the benefits of the recovery around the country. Local businesses and council leaders have been invited to open discussions immediately on the next set of projects to be funded, building on the momentum that has been established.

### ACADEMIC RESEARCH OPEN TO ALL COUNTY RESIDENTS

The County Council's library service has joined forces with the Publishers Licensing Society and Society of Chief Librarians leading to the computers at all 43 of Oxfordshire's libraries being linked up to a system that allows online access to research of many varieties.

Called "Access to Research", the service offers access to research literature on art, architecture, business, engineering, history, languages, politics, philosophy, mathematics and the sciences, medicine and health and social sciences.

*More information at: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/news/2014/jul/oxfordshire-libraries-bring-academic-research-all-county-residents>*

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Berinsfield Library is in need of volunteers to help run our growing number of weekly activities. Why not pop along and help with refreshments, be a computer buddy or help with our many children's activities. Call in for more details or ring us on 340771



**BALDON FEAST 2014 REVIEW**  
*The Great Village Festival for  
Nuneham Courtenay, Toot and Marsh Baldon*



This year we have had a really good summer weather-wise, and no less so than on Feast day. Whether it was the weather or the information being leaked about some of its forthcoming features the attendance at the Feast was without doubt the biggest ever seen in recent years. One of the highlights was the Baldon Bake-Off being judged by three of the 2013 Great British Bake-Off contestants. We also had an enlarged military display with personnel in full uniform. Several mentioned the quality of the bands; "1000 Mile Highway" and "Blake & Brazil". And not to be forgotten were the two dance groups; "Strawberry Fayre Majorettes" and "Marion Flanagan Irish Dancers". Another feature that made it a real feast was the great variety of food outlets appealing to every taste. An additional dimension to the already enlarged market was the craft stalls, which many found fascinating. There was, of course, the usual traditional fun fair all newly varnished glittering in the sunshine. We had some classic cars including some new minis on display. Not to be overlooked were the Funfair's own classic lorries, themselves in their coach painted colours all nicely displayed. Now! What about the Super Raffle? An amazing collection of high quality prizes for which thanks has to the go to effort made by Jenny van Dijk and Ann Druce. In all a very satisfying and successful day out.

It has been my family's privilege to be able to see the continuation of Baldon Feast for the last seven years and it is our hope a way can be found for its continuation. We will not be able to take such a prominent part, however I understand that the Parish Council is going to ascertain the viability of a way forward. What I must mention is the great and significant help from those who volunteered, without which the Feast could not have happened. With extra special thanks to Jeanette Howse, my market manager, who put in so much time and help over the last few years.

Ralph Slaney

Baldon Feast Organizer on behalf of the Baldons Parish Council 2008 - 2014

**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

Items for November 2014 newsletter

**by 16<sup>th</sup> October please**

Any villager is welcome to send items for publication in the newsletter - this can be anything from articles, poems or pictures, to publicising your event. In addition, if you have an image you would like us to consider for the cover, do send it in!

If you would like to receive a reminder e-mail each month for newsletter contributions please let me know.

Natasha Eliot: [tashaandjames@btopenworld.com](mailto:tashaandjames@btopenworld.com). Alternatively I can be contacted on 343478 or at Baldon House East, Marsh Baldon.

For advertising queries, please contact Sheila Harris on: [sheilaharris778@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sheilaharris778@yahoo.co.uk) or on 340403.

## **BALDON FEAST 2015 – FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Baldon Feast has been on the calendar of important events in the village for generations, even long before the memories of our elderly villagers. The coming of the fair to the Baldons on the Monday following the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of August has been one of the traditional events of touring fairs in Oxfordshire.

In the mid-2000s the fairground people indicated to the Parish Council that due to falling attendances they would have to stop coming and in order to keep the event going the Parish Council proposed that the fair come on the Saturday and the village would hold a village fete alongside it. Ralph and Phylis Slaney and their family agreed to be the organisers under the umbrella of the Parish Council and the Feast has since gone from strength to strength for the past 7 years.

Having put in all the hard work Ralph and Phylis now say it's time to hand over the reins to others in the village. **The village must now consider the future of the event for 2015 and beyond.**

Without a village fete being organised the fair will not find it viable to come, and **there is a risk that this traditional event will be lost unless the villagers can come together and support it.**

What is needed is a small organising committee who can work together, perhaps representing the various interested parties, e.g. church, village hall, school, BEC and committed individuals, as we did for the Jubilee celebrations.

**The Parish Council will hold a meeting on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 8 pm in the village hall to which everyone is invited to discuss the future of the Feast.**

Please come and let us know how you feel about the Feast, do you want it to continue? Do you support the creation of a new organising committee and can you contribute to it? Have you any new ideas for a fete? Can you help?

Baldons Parish Council



## NEWS FROM THE MAPLE TREE CHILDREN'S CENTRE

Lots to do as usual here at the Maple Tree – come and join us!

Our **Bumps to Babies** sessions continue on **Mondays from 1.30-3.30pm**. On **20<sup>th</sup> October**, there will be a **Weaning Workshop** from 12.30-1.30 featuring advice and support if your baby is almost ready for solids. No need to book, just turn up. **Baby Café** is always available at these sessions for breastfeeding support.

**Tuesdays** from 10.00-11.00am will be **Baby PEEP** – a learning together programme with songs, action, stories and rhymes for parents and babies up to 18 months. From 1.15-2.45pm why not join our **Forest Fun** sessions? These will be running in the wooded area on Littleworth Road – meet at the Wheatley Centre car park. Don't forget to wear forest appropriate clothing – long sleeves, long legs, and closed shoes. Melanie from Heart of the Wildwood will be leading these sessions.

**Stay and Play** sessions continue on **Wednesdays, 9.15-11.45am** and **Fridays, 9.30-11.30**. This term we will be doing lots of cooking, including making Autumn Soup and bread rolls on **1<sup>st</sup> October**, for our **Harvest Lunch**, 12.00-1.00pm, which will also feature the draw for our Grand Raffle – will you be lucky?

Calling Dads and Male Carers: **Saturdads is on 25<sup>th</sup> October**: come and make yummy apple crumble. Join us from 10.00am to 12.00 noon

If you are expecting a baby between November 2014 and January 2015, then our **Antenatal Welcome** on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October** is for you. This is an informal session for parents to be, whether you are expecting your first or fourth baby, and offer a chance for you to meet other local parents, and to find out about what support is available locally once your baby is born. Tea and cake too! Join us from 1.30-2.30pm. For more details, please speak to your midwife.

Most of our sessions are free, although we do welcome donations (we suggest £1 per family) to cover the cost of snack and materials, and are suitable for children under 5 years old (and don't forget that accompanied older siblings are also welcome during school holidays). You can also find further details on our webpage [www.oxonchildrenscentres.org.uk/themapletree](http://www.oxonchildrenscentres.org.uk/themapletree).

If you would like to reserve a place on any of our courses, or you have any questions, please contact the centre on 01865 873916 or [mapletreec@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:mapletreec@oxfordshire.gov.uk). You can also follow us on Twitter (@themapletreec) or like us on Facebook (mapletreec).



## TOOT CHURCHYARD EXTENSION

After nearly 7 years of fundraising and work, the extension to the churchyard at St Lawrence's is complete. We thought it may be of interest for people to know where the money was raised to do the work and how it was spent.

### **Total Income £13,336, from:**

Fund raising events	£6,655
Donations	£5,870
Funeral collections	£811

### **Total expenditure £13,336, on:**

Purchase of land	£2,400
Legal fees	£5,995
Fencing and hedging	£2,207
Tree report and clearance	£1,038
Landscaping and seeding	£1,362
Planning permission	£335

A very big thank you to all those who have given so generously of their time, money and expertise, to make all this possible.

Our church buildings, their uses and the cost of clergy are all totally dependent upon the financial support of residents in these villages.

Parochial Church Council



**Community  
Information  
Network**

## **AGE UK**

### **Activities at Berinsfield Library**

#### **Knit and Natter**

**If you enjoy Knitting, Cross Stitch, Crochet etc, pick up your knitting needles and come along to the group meet new people enjoy your hobby  
First Tuesday of every Month 10.30am-12.00pm**

#### **Book and a Bun Reading Group**

**Second Thursday of the month 2.00pm  
A free book club. Join us each month for a friendly discussion on a different book over a cup of tea and a bun**

**Drop in Session  
Last Wednesday of  
the month.**

**10.30-12.00am  
Pop in for a coffee  
and meet Ruth**

## SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2014

5 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am	Baptism Service	Toot Baldon
12 <sup>th</sup> October	5.00pm <i>please note time</i>	Harvest Festival <i>followed by Bring &amp; Share Supper in the Village Hall</i>	Marsh Baldon
19 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>including Sunday School</i>	Marsh Baldon
26 <sup>th</sup> October	8.30am	Said Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
	9.30am	Family Service <i>One4All</i>	Marsh Baldon
2 <sup>rd</sup> November	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon
9 <sup>th</sup> November	10.45am	Remembrance Sunday	Toot Baldon

**Fellowship Group: Mondays at 7.30pm.**

**Autumn Meetings:** 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> October; 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> November

Venues and further details from Jennifer Morton 343302; or email: [jennifer@morton8.co.uk](mailto:jennifer@morton8.co.uk)

### FLOWERS

	Marsh	Toot
5 <sup>th</sup> October	F Ardern	A Druce
12 <sup>th</sup> October	HARVEST – see below	M Trinder
19 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> October	I Wright & L Martin	V Bowler
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> November	C Attewill & V Sandilands	

### SIDESDUTY

	Marsh	Toot
5 <sup>th</sup> October		9.30am Ann Druce
12 <sup>th</sup> October	5.00pm J & H Maskell	
19 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am Ian Gillespie	
26 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30 am Graham Hobbins	
2 <sup>nd</sup> November		9.30am Jenny van Dijk

### ST PETER'S CHURCH FLOWERS

Following up our piece in last month's Newsletter, we are having a sociable morning in St Peter's on Saturday, 11 October at 11 am. Decorating the church is fun and not daunting as long as there are enough people to help. So do come along - bring your children and your ideas and help us fill the Church with flowers and fruits. Coffee, tea, soft drinks and cake will be provided.



We much look forward to seeing you and seeing a wonderfully decorated Church.

Debbie Dance and Veronica Sandilands

# HARVEST SUPPER

You are invited to come and celebrate this year's harvest on  
**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October** at a

**Family Service of Thanksgiving**  
at St Peter's, Marsh Baldon at 5pm  
followed by

**a Bring and Share Supper**  
in the Baldons Village hall at 6.15pm (Children most welcome)

RSVP with offerings for the Bring and Share supper: cold meats, salads, quiches, baked potatoes, grated cheese, apple pies, and anything else you would like to eat or drink

to: **Catherine Mason** 01865 343503  
Catherinevmason@gmail.com or  
**Sonia Hobbins:** 01865 343227  
soniahobbins@icloud.com  
or sign up on notices in churches

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