The Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay Newsletter



September 2017

FROM REVD CANON SUE BOOYS

This afternoon I had a most extraordinary experience - two beautiful blue butterflies landed on my hand and sat and basked there for a whole 20 minutes. In fact in the end I had to shake them gently away. I'm not sitting at home writing this particular talking point but in the Italian alps where I have joined my daughter for a few days walking.

It was easy to say and it sounds simple doesn't it but in reality it's been more demanding but also more rewarding than I hoped. In the demanding box is the sheer difficulty and exhaustion of walking more and more steeply than I'm ever normally expected to - not to mention the very noticeable fact that I'm not getting any younger. Conversely one of the rewards is discovering that I *can* and the joy of having a daughter who is willing to let me try!!

One of the extraordinary things I've noticed in the more difficult moments is that the conversation in my head has turned to song - many of them Hymns - Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer (probably an obvious choice) Then praise my soul (sung climbing up a path that had turned into a waterfall overnight) being just two examples.

Often we don't know how important the things we learn are going to be! Words of songs, lines from poems, amazing sights and experiences are all important things for our journeys in life as are relationships and the memories of them. In moments of need or challenge I often recall the wisdom and love of particular people - my grandmother's saying about disputes - that it's usually "six of one and half a dozen of the other" is something I often have reason to remember.

We need this bank of wisdom and memories that we gather throughout our lives - it's contents are precious in moments of joy and of sorrow, and in moments of faith and doubt. Sometimes because we strive to recall them but also at times when they enter our minds unexpectedly at times of need and as moments of blessing.

EVENTS IN DORCHESTER ABBEY

Sat 16th Oct 7.30pm OSJ perform: Carl Orff - Carmina Burana, Brahms - Liebeslieder Walzer, Schumann - Liederspiel With OSJ VOICES and MALCOLM ARNOLD ACADEMY CHOIR and JOHN LUBBOCK conductor. Tickets (£12 - £20) are available from: www.osj.org.uk

Thurs 28th 7.30pm Dorchester Lecture

Dame Helen Ghosh "The challenges facing the National Trust in the twenty-first century". Tickets £10 available from Honor Juniper 01865 343228

The Revd Paul Cawthorne is Team vicar for The Baldons with Nuneham Courtenay, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard.

e-mail: bbdparishoffice@rocketmail.com and tel: 01865 340460

A clergy person can always be reached in a pastoral emergency by ringing the Dorchester Team Office 01865 340007

BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Clerk

The Parish Council has appointed Lisa Fermer as our clerk from the 1st August. Lisa lives in the village and many will know her. Her contact details for council business are:

Lisa Fermer 1 The Croft Marsh Baldon OX44 9LN

Tel 341349 email baldonsparishclerk@outlook.com

Village Gate Parsonage Farm

The gate across the road at Parsonage farm has been damaged. The posts that support the gate have been damaged, probably by large vehicles, and the parish council is considering repair or replacement although this is not urgent. The gate was last replaced in 2008. Both gates off the village green are of historical interest as they reflect the time when villagers had rights to graze animals on the green, but although they now help to slow traffic passing through them many vehicles now are larger and wider than in the past, hence sometimes creating damage. It would be helpful to the council's consideration for us to have some villagers' views about the continuing importance of the gates and whether we should replace them or not.

Neighbourhood Plan

All households in the Baldons should by now have received a copy of the draft Neighbourhood Plan for your review and comment. If by any chance your household did not receive a copy - or if you would like an additional copy - let any Baldons Parish Councillor know and another will be provided. Please, please do try to find time to read the Plan and comment during the currency of the consultation period - that is before the **8th October**. Also try to come to the public meeting that is planned for the **3rd October** in the Village Hall to put your views forward and to join in the discussion. At the end of the consultation period all the comments that we have received will be analysed and taken into account in producing a revised version of the Plan which will then be formally submitted to the SODC.

Planning applications

Yew Tree Cottage Toot Baldon. Planning ref P17/S2300/LB an application for demolition and rebuilding of the single storey side extension with some internal modification to this listed property. The Parish council has supported the application to SODC.

Planning applications for *The Dairy Toot Baldon and Hillfield Farm Toot Baldon* have both been approved by SODC

Low Hill Marsh Baldon. SODC have informed the council of a Lawful Permitted Development application for the replacement of the glazed roof and windows of a rear conservatory. P17/S2760/LPD

33 The Green Marsh Baldon. An application for change of use from Agricultural land to garden status. P17/S2411/FUL. The application is currently being considered by the Parish Council

Manor House Barn. An application for the replacement of roof lights in the listed barn P17/S2732/LB has also been received and is being considered by the council

Parking and Repairs outside the school

The council discussed the damage to the green outside the school and options for repair. Options and costs will be considered again at the September council meeting pending discussion with the school.

B480 Junction

Complains were made to the council about the visual obstruction and road safety problems at the junction from Toot Baldon with the B480 due to overgrown hedges. This was recognised as an annual problem. The council referred the matter to the highways department and also spoke to the land owner. The problem has since been dealt with and the hedge and grass verges cut.

Date of next Meeting

Monday September 11th Village Hall 7.30 pm.

Parish Council History

Many villagers may not be aware of the history behind the parish council and local democracy. The council is required to keep minute books and a small number of documents indefinitely and as a result of reorganising some council files interesting bits have come to light.

Prior to the creation of the Parish Council the parishes of Marsh Baldon and Toot Baldon held their own separate Parish meetings.

The first parish meetings were formally established in 1884 and both villages held them on the same day, 4th December 1884. Meetings initially seem to have been held mainly annually and much of the early business was involved with appointing overseers for the poor of the parishes, the appointment of trustees and management of local charities and allotments, the organising of the fair in Marsh Baldon and the management of the Green.

The Minute book for Marsh Baldon contains the Baldon Estate Rules and Regulations for Stocking the village Green (summarised)

- 1. The Green shall be open for horse's cows and sheep from 1st June to 25th March and pigs all the year round
- 2. Anyone turning on to the green any greater number of horses cows or sheep or pigs than allowed were liable to a daily penalty, 5/- (old money) per horse 2/6 per cow and 1/-per sheep.
- 3. The Queen's College and tenants were allowed 8 horses or 16 cows or 40 sheep.

Sir Henry Willoughby of Baldon House or his tenants 21 horses or 42 cows or 105 sheep...

Occupiers of cottages round the green on or before 1816 were allowed 2 pigs on the green by act of parliament dealing with the dividing and allotting land in the parishes of Marsh and Toot Baldon by King William IV

The Parish Council as it is now was created by Oxfordshire Country Council at the request of the parishes in the spring of 1969 with each parish retaining its separate identity.

The earliest unofficial document in the files is a receipt from a Mr William Nichols dated 29th August 1933 for £2 5s 0d (old Money) for one year's wages as 'Keeper of the Green' Do any of the older villagers remember him? What did he do?

Maintenance of the green costs the Parish Council a great deal more than this today!

GET YOUR ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTED FOR FREE

We may be in the middle of summer but it's never too early to get an important date in the diary. If you use an electric blanket to help you keep warm during the colder months then it's important you get it checked each year to make sure it's safe.

Electric blanket testing will take place at:

- Wallingford Regal Centre on 5 October
- Thame Town Hall on 19 October

Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue is providing with support from Oxfordshire County Council Trading Standards with South Oxfordshire District Council.

All appointments must be pre-booked. From mid-August you can book a free electric blanket test by calling 01865 898642 or email communityengagement@oxfordshire.gov.uk

NEW BOOK FOR LOCAL HISTORIANS

Local Carriers And Their Families Around The Wallingford Area, 1830-1930 by Christina Eke. Cost £11.99 (p/p £1.36)

The book is a record of the lives of the men and women with a horse and cart who provided a reliable and vital service to market towns for the inhabitants of the surrounding villages for over a hundred years. Any historian will find the volume a detailed resource of family members and how the carriers traded.

Available from Wallingford Bookshop, Wallingford Information Centre or directly from chrisdeke@btinternet.com

NUNEHAM COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the **Nuneham Courtenay Parish Council meeting** on 18th July Councillors Madhvi Saini, John Peters, Jenny Ballam, Sue Lawson & Elizabeth Gillespie were joined by 10 members of the public.

Parishioners' issues raised

Planning application for no 37 Nuneham Courtenay.

Much discussion on the height of the proposed single storey building, which at 5m high was considered excessive. Orientation changed in the plans, so right next to the boundary, affecting the privacy of the neighbours on both sides. Impact on the driveway and access: very difficult getting more than two cars out safely. Possibly represents an over development of the garden.

<u>Playing fields</u>: Appear overgrown, with the grass much too high & village children have nowhere to congregate. There is a general frustration that plans have been discussed over many years with no visible progress. An update statement from Jasminder Love was read out & there were questions raised about the timescale. <u>Trees on the streets</u> – Are a potential risk to property as they now touch the houses in some cases. Southern Electric have explained about cutting the trees & dangers to the electricity supply. Please phone SE if you need any high vis jackets, torches, advice etc.

Crossing for Nuneham Courtenay was discussed again

District councillor reported that Unitary council bid has not been fully supported but the proposal has gone to the government anyway, but this is now considered a low priority.

5-year housing land supply proposals are required for planning purposes, however this can cause problems where City Council cannot meet targets & local Neighbourhood Plans are not clear on the issues. DC will email documents/Guide to Neighbourhood planning & how to get funding.

Playing fields – Jasminder Love & Mr. Benson to be invited to the next PC meeting to discuss their plans & advise if there is any help that the Playing Field Committee needs.

Village plan. Money had been received from Community First Oxfordshire to support a community-led plan. An email about the funding was read out and a written response from Jasminder noted.

However, the Village plan concept is possibly outdated while a Neighbourhood plan carries more material weight. The Parish can learn from established local Neighbourhood Plans e.g. Baldons.

Finance. Accounts were reviewed for audit purposes, approved & signed. Annual Audit statements were presented & signed off as no concerns expressed. Explained that there is no access to the Bank Account currently but 3 new signatories are being authorised & any outstanding financial commitments will be cleared by the end of August.

New Councillors. 2 new prospective Councillors to be considered at the next meeting.

Planning Applications – PC agreed to raise an objection to the development at 37 Nuneham Courtenay based on issues raised earlier in the meeting.

Any Other Business

Website – Action in hand to update the website.

<u>Maintenance of the footpaths</u> - Clerk to contact Savills about the footpaths & invite the new landowners, or their representative, to come and talk to the village about their aims for the estate.

Oxfordshire LEADER - Check if funds available to help rural community projects & help with playing fields development; funds for a crossing or even a Village/talking shop like Sandford.

<u>Crossing Status</u> - County Council Highways will be contacted to get clarification about the crossing status since there is a belief that some funds had already been made available for such a project.

<u>Date of next meeting</u>: Tuesday 5 September 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE

Oxfordshire County Council has confirmed that it will keep its entire network of seven Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) in the county open in the medium term (with no change to opening hours or days they are open) due to a new management contract that has been awarded to W&S Recycling.

The Dorset based firm already manages five of Oxfordshire's HWRC sites which means there will be minimal disruption to residents when the new contract starts on 1 October 2017. W&S Recycling will manage the HWRC sites at Alkerton, Ardley, Drayton, Oakley Wood, Redbridge, and Stanford in the Vale. Dix Pit HWRC will continue to be managed by FCC Environment.

Residents will continue to be able to dispose of all household waste free of charge at any of the county's recycling centres. Oxfordshire has had a system of charging for non-household waste which includes soil, rubble and DIY waste for 15 years and has not increased the charge of £1 per item over that time.

When the new contract starts on 1 October, W&S Recycling will increase the charge for non-household waste items to £1.50 which is less than other authorities who charge for this service. In the HWRC public consultation carried out in summer 2016, 91% of Oxfordshire residents favoured charges for non-household waste over site closures.

A Big Thank You

Sheila, Pete and Barry Brooks would like to thank you all who sent cards, flowers and donations and family and friends who came and visited us. It was a great help after the sad loss of our daughter Caroline and sister to Barry.

Many thanks and love to you all.

GARDEN VISITS

Wallingford Gardening Club's summer garden programme concludes with a visit to Upper Chalford Farm, near Chinnor.

This is a Jacobean farmhouse garden surrounded by fields, old roses, shrubs and perennials. There are unusual trees - an ancient black pine, and Caucasian wingnut tree. Hidden gardens reveal different plantings and peaceful places to sit. Spring fed ponds and stream with damp planted banks lead to reclaimed woodland with treehouse, bog garden and wild flower meadow. Other features include topiary, wildlife ponds, conservatory sundials and donkeys.

This visit will be held at Upper Chalford Farm, between Sydenham & Postcombe, Chinnor OX39 4NH, at 6pm on Thursday 7th September, and cost £5.

Just turn up - cost £5. Visitors very welcome. Isabelle Darby 01491-836867

A HISTORY OF PETTITS OF WALLINGFORD

At the TWHAS September talk, Rachel Pettit-Smith will present "A history of Pettits of Wallingford".

Rachel's talk will give a history of Wallingford's department store, and a little about the family who ran it from its beginning in 1856 to the present day. The business was started by two brothers and changed and expanded



through the years as it passed to later generations of the same family until 1987 when it was taken over by another local family.

Over time it has sold a large range of merchandise and undergone several transformations while continuing to serve the people of Wallingford and the surrounding area. This talk is very timely as it also complements the 2017 'Pettits: past to present' exhibition at Wallingford Museum.

This talk will be held on Wednesday 13th Sept, 7.45 for 8pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford. Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

www.twhas.org.uk

THE DEFIBRILLATOR HAS ARRIVED!

From this: To this:







The defibrillator is finally installed and very many thanks to all those who have given time and money to make this possible, with a particular thank you to **Dave Jeffery** who made a new door for the kiosk and the **Parish Council** for all their support of the project. There will be training both in use of the defibrillator and basic life support as specified below.

The charity who made this possible is **Community Heartbeat**, and they supplied advice, the defibrillator and the cabinet. They are also coming to do the defibrillator training. Through them, BT pay the first 7 years of electricity supply. In addition, they organised for the paint for the box, which was donated free of charge. Many thanks also **SODC** who gave 50% money to make this possible.

The cabinet and defibrillator are registered with the ambulance service, so in the event that you may need it, please call 999, and an ambulance will be sent. The ambulance control will give out the code for the cabinet and this allows access to the defibrillator. Within the cabinet is also a wind up torch and a high vis jacket.

There will be **training** on how to use the defibrillator on the **23rd September**, at East Wing, Baldon House, run by Community Heartbeat. There will also be training in how to perform Basic Life Support on manikins. This is just as important as using the defibrillator so do please come to both parts. The timings are yet to be confirmed but it is likely to run as a drop-in session from 10 - 2pm. Please watch the village email for more information.

** Calling all doctors in the village - if you are available to come and help run BLS please let me know via my email sara@mcdouall.co.uk **

Any questions, please contact me on 343567.

Thank you! Sara

AGATHA CHRISTIE WEEKEND 2017

Friday 8 - Sunday 10 September in Wallingford and Cholsey. The theme may be murder, but the emphasis is on enjoyment!

Celebrity Talks by John Curran and Lucy Worsley:

Friday Night at Wallingford Masonic Hall at 8pm: John Curran, celebrated Agatha Christie specialist, 'The Life and Crimes of Agatha Christie'. Tickets £12. Bar available. John Curran is a popular speaker with a vast knowledge of Agatha Christie's life and work. He is the author of award-winning books: Agatha Christie's Secret Notebooks and Agatha Christie's Murder in the Making and was consultant to the National Trust during the renovation of her Devon home, Greenway. He will include plenty of references to her local connections.

Saturday Night at Cholsey St. Mary's Church at 8pm: Lucy Worsley: 'A Very British Murder'. Tickets £15 includes a drink. Lucy Worsley is an extremely entertaining public speaker - historian, author, curator and well known television presenter on historical topics. She is Chief Curator at Historic Royal Palaces.

Agatha Christie Trail Guided Walks:

Saturday and Sunday. Leave Wallingford Museum at 10am. Tickets £10 on the day, includes entry to exhibitions at both Wallingford Museum and Cholsey Day Centre. Also includes ticket to return on the C&WR Heritage Railway.

Exhibitions:

Cholsey Day Centre: 'Agatha, Cholsey, and her Books' - Saturday and Sunday 11am to 4pm. Entry £2.50

Wallingford Museum: 'At Home with the Queen of Crime' - Friday 2pm to 5pm, Saturday and Sunday 10am to 5pm. Special half-price offer, £2.50

Midsomer Murders and Historic Town Walks

Wallingford is Causton in the TV series! One hour walks leave from Wallingford Town Hall at 3.30pm Saturday and Sunday. Tickets £5 on the day.

Special Vintage Afternoon Tea in Wallingford:

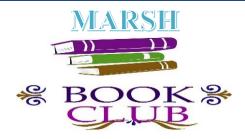
These will be available at Wallingford's Historic Town Hall on Saturday afternoon. Pre-booking essential. Tickets £10.

Refreshments and Cream Teas in Cholsey:

Lunches and Cream Teas will be available at Cholsey Day Centre (open 11am to 4pm Saturday and Sunday). No booking necessary.

Cholsey St. Mary's Church: Resting place of Dame Agatha Christie and her husband, Max Mallowan. The church and churchyard will be open for visitors all weekend.

See website for more details and booking arrangements:www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk/agatha-christie-weekend



Are you interested in reading an eclectic range of interesting books? We read a wide variety of authors and subjects of mostly interesting reads. Our Book Club is small but beautifully formed.

If you would like to join our very informal friendly monthly group please contact:

Sheila Harris on 01865 340403 or sheilaharris778@yahoo.co.uk

BALDONS VILLAGE HALL AGM – 27 SEPTEMBER, 8PM, BALDONS VILLAGE HALL

Come along to find out what your Village Hall Committee have done this year and their plans for the future.

Need a baby-sitter?

I am currently a student at Cokethorpe School. I have just finished my GCSEs and will be pursuing further education in September.

Eventually, my aim is to enter the teaching profession (primary) and I am keen to build up my experience with children. I have previous baby-sitting experience and I have worked with disabled children on a voluntary basis.

I will be available for baby-sitting most evenings from September.

If this advert is of interest to you, please contact Sophia Stanley on

07720660766.

I live locally and references are available on request.

DEVELOPMENT ON OUR GREEN BELT - UPDATE

We are a group of villagers who volunteered to set up 'Village Voice' in response to concerns about a proposed development on Green Belt land, between our villages and Oxford city, by landowners Magdalen College, Thames Water and Oxford City Council.

This development would mean an urban expansion of Oxford of 3,000 + houses, south of Grenoble Road. The developers claim they will deliver some affordable homes, but they are unlikely to be affordable to most local people. The developers would gain around £600 million, whilst our communities and Oxford city dwellers would lose countryside they have enjoyed for centuries, for ever.

The purpose of the Green Belt is to prevent the spread of large built-up areas and prevent urban sprawl, except in "exceptional circumstances" specified by government. This proposal does not fit those criteria, there are no "exceptional circumstances" here that warrant incursion into the Green Belt.

There are other serious consequences to consider:-

- Increased traffic, noise and pollution
- Flood danger and health risks
- Strain on services and infrastructure
- Environmental destruction of open, green fields

South Oxfordshire District Council has identified alternative, non-Green Belt sites to meet housing demand until 2032. Village plan surveys have revealed zero support for building on Green Belt land amongst our communities.

At the time of writing we anticipate a submission of full plans by the developers which may be imminent. We wanted to let you know we have a plan of action in place to include:-

- Conduct a survey of Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay villagers to canvass views we're aware there may be varying opinions on the development.
- Launch our website to provide further information, latest updates and opportunities to get involved.
- Contact SODC to state your views

Meanwhile if you would like to involved in any way please email: baldonsinfo@gmail.com



BERINSFIELD LIBRARY

Visit your Local Library and see what we have on offer

Rhymes for the Under 5's Wednesdays 10.30am

Storytime Wednesdays 3.45pm

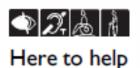
IT Lessons Thursdays 2.00pm

Knit and Natter Tuesday 5th September 2.30pm (any craft welcome)

Reading Group Thursday 14th September 2.00pm

Coffee Morning Tuesday 19th September 10.30am

All Welcome





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ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER Items for the October 2017 newsletter by 16th September 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 email each month for newsletter contributions please let me know.

Natasha Eliot:

tashaandjames@btopenworld.com.
Alternatively I can be contacted on 343478 or at Baldon House East, Marsh Baldon.
For advertising queries, please contact

sheilaharris778@yahoo.co.uk or on 340403.

Sheila Harris on:

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References Available Upon Request





VAT REG NO: 212 6529 30





SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

3 rd September	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon
10 th September	6.00pm	Evening Worship	Toot Baldon
17 th September	9.30am	Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
24 th September	8.30am	Said Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
	9.30am	Family Worship with Pets	Marsh Baldon
1st October	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon
8 th October	5.00pm	Evening Worship for Harvest followed by Supper in Church	Toot Baldon

SIDESDUTY

	Marsh	Toot
3 rd September		9.30am Graham Hobbins
10 th September		6.00pm Jenny van Dijk
17 th September	9.30am Stephen Dance	
24 th September	9.30am Liam McCormick	

FLOWERS

	Marsh	Toot
27 th Aug & 3 rd Sept	C Attewill & V Sandilands	V Bowler
10 th & 17 th Sept	I Wright & L Martin	S Hobbins & J van Dijk
24 th Sept & 1 st Oct	A Lyall	J Brook