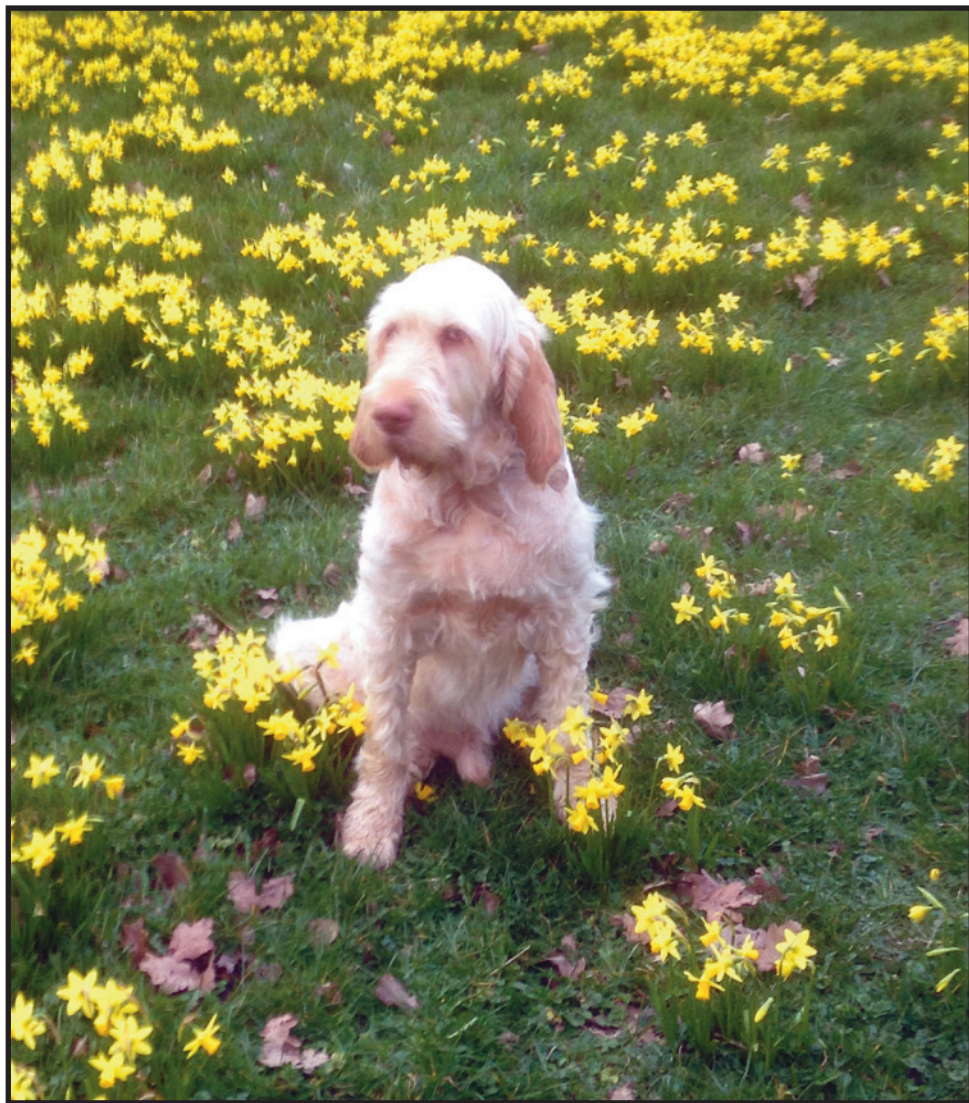


GREAT MILTON BULLETIN

April 2017

Published by the Parish Council

No. 519



Great Milton Parish Council

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|
| Chairman: | Stephen Harrod | 01844 278068 |
| Ward: | Church Road to Monkerly Farm/The Priory | |
| Vice Chairman: | Peter Fewell | 01844 279400 |
| Ward: | The Green from Priory Bank to Tara/Applewood | |
| Councillor: | Bill Fox | 01844 279716 |
| Ward: | Thame Road, inc Fullers Field and Green Hitchings | |
| Councillor: | Clyde Deacon | 01844 278554 |
| Ward: | High Street from North End Cottage to The Old Garage | |
| Councillor: | Malcolm Horsley | — |
| Ward: | Thame Road from Green Hitchings to A329 | |
| Councillor: | Gwen Harris | |
| Ward: | Kings Head House/Red Roofs to Wheatley Boundary | |
| Councillor: | Peter Allen | 01844 278334 |
| Ward: | Milton Common | |

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Helen Cherry – 07554 516989

21 Fullers Field, Great Milton, Oxford OX44 7PJ.

contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk

Parish Council Representatives

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Rec Ground Committee: | Michael Robinson, Michele Block |
| Old Field Charity: | Hazel Hand, Niki Patrick |
| Hard Surface Play Area: | Susan Read, Jon Devitt |
| Neighbourhood Watch: | Lesley Bush, Liz Sands |
| Kent & Couling Charity: | Cynthia D'Anger |
| Sheppard Trust: | Ann Price, Pat Cox |

Parish Council Publication Scheme (*Freedom of Information Act*)

Residents of the Parish can see the records of the Council held by the Parish Clerk or learn where they may be accessed. These records include minutes, financial information, and responses to planning consultations. Applications can be made to the Parish Clerk and documents viewed by appointment. Any copies required will be charged at 10p per page.

Front Cover

Frankie looking innocent among the daffodils on the Green.

Photo: Antony Ayton.

If you have any photos of the village or events, we would love to include them!

In My Opinion...

If the Bulletin is late this month, blame me, as I have been inundated with various things and was extremely late in submitting my draft to our esteemed Editor! Apologies.

Apologies also on behalf of Biffa for the cancelled LitterPick. Sadly, they were not able to deliver the necessary equipment to us in time. This has now prompted us to purchase our own set of hi-viz jackets and litter pick tongs so that we can operate fairly independently in future. Although we will now have to deal with the growth in the verges, rest assured that we will announce a new LitterPick date in the near future.

I am pleased to announce that the Bull has survived the recent chimney fire, brought on by the failure of the extractor fan at the top of the chimney. The pub committee will be holding a special meeting to resolve a way forward to ensure this does not happen again. In my opinion, whatever we have to do will be money well spent to secure the safety of the pub and its neighbours for the future!

The County Council election is looming on Thursday 4th May and I trust you have all registered to vote in this important election.

Remember, don't let apathy rule!

Stephen Harrod, Chairman



Parish Council Notes

The March meeting of Great Milton Parish Council was chaired by Cllr Stephen Harrod (Chair, County and District Councillor) with Cllrs Peter Allen, Peter Fewell, Clyde Deacon and Gwen Harris in attendance. Also present were Helen Cherry (Clerk). Apologies were received from Cllr Bill Fox, Malcom Horsley and Clyde Deacon.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th April at 7.00pm, followed by the Annual meeting at 7:30pm in the Pavilion.

Representatives from the following Committees are invited to attend or provide reports, The Annual meeting on Tuesday 18th April at 7:30pm in the pavilion:

Great Milton Recreation Ground Management Committee

The Hard Surface Play Area Committee

Old Field Charity

Kent and Couling Charity

Sheppard Charitable Trust

Planning Applications

GMPC gave their recommendations on the following planning applications received from SODC:

It was resolved to REFUSE;

P17/S0576/FUL – Ramada Hotel Welcome Break Oxford, Thame Rd, Near Wheatley. Two-storey extension of existing hotel to provide 34 new bedrooms and additional restaurant seating space.

Great Milton Parish Council were in support of comments from Waterstock Parish meeting, in their letter of 6th March 2017.

Great Milton Parish Council held No strong Views;

P17/S0734/Ful – Welcome Break, Oxford Motorway Service Area, Thame Rd, Waterstock. Erection of detached restaurant (A3 use).

Recommended Approval; P17/S0857/LB – The Limes, Lower End, Great Milton. Erection of a blue Plaque.

Held No Strong Views;

P17/S0322/O - Hughendon Motors London Road, Milton Common. Demolition of the existing buildings and the erection of five detached two-storey dwellings with access, parking and amenity space. As amended by drawing J940-P101A creating a turning area, demonstrating vehicle tracking and adding bin collection points accompanying e-mail from agent received 8 March 2017.

Recommended Approval;

P17/S0730/FUL – Neighbours Hall Church Road, Great Milton. Replacement

UPVC windows and doors to community building. Removal of external storage and landscaping of external space.

Planning decision notices received from SODC

South Oxfordshire District Council hereby gave notice that listed building consent be GRANTED:

Application No : P17/S0093/LB

Application proposal, including any amendments :

Replacement of existing front door (as amplified by Door Furniture and Colour Details Specification received in by email on 06.03.17)

Site Location : March Cottage The Green Great Milton OX44 7NS

South Oxfordshire District Council hereby gave notice that planning permission be GRANTED

Application No : P16/S3603/FUL

Application proposal, including any amendments :

Erection of Two Detached and Two Semi-Detached Houses. (As amended by Drawing 002a accompanying e-mail from agent received 21 December 2016 and letter to Tiddington Parish Council relating to visibility).

Site Location : The Oxford Belfry Hotel London Road Milton Common OX9 2JW

Litter Pick date

Unfortunately litter-pick equipment was not available for the scheduled litter-pick date and therefore had to be postponed. An additional date to hold the event will be confirmed in due course.

Donations

GMPC received a donation request from Freecycle Committee. It was resolved to donate £120. The donation will assist in yearly costs incurred from renting the Pavilion and advertising the event.

Correspondence and Public Discussion

The Council received a grant request to pay towards Grass Cutting at St Mary's Church. This expenditure has been included in 2017/18 GMPC budget and will therefore be added to the April agenda to be paid.

Risk Assessment

The risk assessment was reviewed and approved.

Helen Cherry

Clerk to Great Milton Parish Council

Services in Our Benefice for April

| | St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton | St. James's Little Milton | St. Peter's Great Haseley |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sunday 2nd <i>Lent 5</i> | Holy Communion BCP 8:00am | Holy Communion CW 9:30am | Family Service 11:00am |
| Wednesday 5th | | Compline 7:30pm | |
| Sunday 9th <i>Palm Sunday</i> | Holy Communion CW 9:30am | Family Service 11:00am | Holy Communion BCP 8:00am |
| Thursday 13th <i>Maundy Thursday</i> | | | Holy Communion 7:30pm |
| Friday 14th <i>Good Friday</i> | Service of Reflection 11:00am | | |
| Sunday 16th <i>Easter Day</i> | Holy Communion BCP 8:00am | Holy Communion CW 11:00am | Holy Communion CW 9:30am |
| Sunday 23rd <i>Easter 2</i> | BENEFICE | SERVICE | ST. MARY'S |
| Sunday 30th <i>Easter 3</i> | BENEFICE | SERVICE | ST. JAMES'S |

Services in Our Benefice for May

| | St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton | St. James's Little Milton | St. Peter's Great Haseley |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sunday 7th <i>Easter 4</i> | Holy Communion BCP 8:00am | Holy Communion CW 9:30am | Family Service 11:00am |

Ramblings from the Rectory

As I write, I have visions of angrily worded letters from parents from Great Milton School.


I was taking part in an RE session for year 6 pupils, I repeat year 6, not reception, year 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 but year 6. Please hold that in mind before you judge me too harshly dear reader! They were looking at the life and person of Jesus and who various people believed he was. I was roped in as a bona fide vicar who might be able to say what I thought.

It was an excellent session. I was really impressed with how robust the thinking of the Children was. They looked at Jesus from all angles, including whether in fact he might have been mad?

One girl did make the comment that small children would possibly have a particular view of Jesus as a good person and teacher but only when growing older might they begin to discover that there could be more. I did respond that sometimes small children often have no problem with the more wonderful and extraordinary ideas surrounding Jesus and that Jesus himself welcomed children, indeed he said that in our approach to him we all need to be child-like. Then it happened, lulled into a false sense of security by the robustness of the questions and the nature of the discussion I started to say that for some people as they grow older the difficulty comes when they look at Jesus alongside their belief in father christmas and the tooth fairy. Remember (for the third time) these were year 6 children who had engaged with some very deep questions. I have to confess that as parents perhaps we were rather brutal with our own children who I think by the age of 7 had probably got sorted out that looking at evidence for Jesus and evidence for the other two might be of a very different order. Anyway, a loud 'no' from a teaching assistant alerted me not to go down that line of discussion any further. I immediately attempted a recovery to say something like 'and as we begin to question these things we need to go back and look at the evidence of where it all might have come from.' I had talked about the writings of the New Testament and my belief that whatever conclusion we come to, the writers of these documents clearly believed some remarkable things had happened.

But I am hoping that it will not turn out to be a misguided Basil Fawlty moment, 'don't mention the war, I did just now but I think I got away with it.'

If I have any defence, it could be that by year 6, children might have understood that we are not on the same playing field when it comes to evidence for father christmas, the tooth fairy and Jesus. Some things are obviously just plain myth or fairy tale but others, like faith perhaps, need to be examined and looked at in a different way. If not, it could lead to what the man on one of the vox pops shown at our Lent group cheerfully stated, 'I gave up believing in Jesus or God alongside Father Christmas and the Tooth fairy'. If my comment inadvertently caused one or two children in the class to have a major existential crisis, I am very sorry of course.

I do however come back to the evidence. I don't think faith can simply be dismissed alongside obvious myths and fairy tales. I return to the evidence of the New Testament, that these writers clearly believed what they were writing about this extraordinary and mysterious man. On Good Friday we will be remembering that Jesus really and actually died on the Cross. Muslims for instance don't believe 

this, Jesus as one of God's holy prophets would never be allowed to suffer such an ignominious end. Quite why he died is complicated and many faceted. The New Testament approaches the question from different angles, He died for our sins, He died to overthrow the powers of evil, He died to demonstrate the nature and depth of God's love for us, he died to identify with the plight of the suffering and fallen. All of these I think are valid and fit together to make a whole, and yet still leave us grappling with the mystery; 'Tis mystery all the immortal dies' Charles Wesley wrote in his great Hymn 'And can it be'. On Easter Sunday we will be remembering that the New Testament is also clear that Jesus really and actually rose from the dead. 'The Lord is risen, he is risen indeed, Alleluia' is the great cry of Easter Sunday morning, and the New Testament points to a whole body of evidence to counter those of that day who suggested 'oh no he didn't'. I don't think it will do to dismiss the claim as myth or metaphor, when we read the accounts we have to ask if those who wrote them down believed them to be true? I think there can be only one answer, and we then have to make our choice. Do I believe all of this? Well, I wrestle and wonder about how it all works but essentially, yes I do. Do I believe in father christmas or the tooth fairy? no I don't. I don't want to spoil an innocent sense of wonder and magic, but sooner or later children have to sort this out. I just hope right now that I don't get into a whole heap of trouble for foolishly starting down that particular path with a bunch of year six pupils!

The Lord is risen, He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Holy Week and Easter.

Our Holy Communion service on Maundy Thursday, commemorating the events of the Last Supper will take place at 7.30 pm on Thursday April 13th at St Peter's Great Haseley. Tim Suter is organising a choir especially to support this service.

Our Good Friday service of reflections and Hymns will be at 11.00 am at St Mary's Great Milton.

In the afternoon, by popular demand, there will once again be a 'pilgrimage' walk around the Benefice, beginning at 2.30pm outside the Plough at Great Haseley with a brief reading and a prayer. The route will then go across the fields, through the Wells Farm nature reserve to the triangle at the top of Haseley road in Little Milton, where there will be a second brief reading and a prayer. The walk will move back to Great Milton, with a stop on the Green for a third reading and prayer. The walk will then pass the Windmill with its great views and end back at the Plough at Great Haseley which should then be open for refreshments! The walk is of course open to all, including those with dogs, we had a really good number of our canine friends join us last year. This might appeal to those who want to mark Good Friday in some way but

for whom a more formal service in church is not their thing, or for those who simply want to have a good walk!

- Our Easter day services will be:
- 8.00am: St Mary’s Great Milton, BCP Said Communion. 9.30am: St Peter’s Great Haseley, Holy Communion with Easter Hymns.
- 11.00am: St James Great Haseley, Easter Day Family Communion.

APCM’s

Each parish church legally has to hold an annual parochial church meeting. These are open to all, however only those on the Church Electoral Roll can vote, for instance to elect churchwardens or PCC members. Each APCM will take place in the respective parish church.


- This year our APCM’s will be:
 - Great Milton, St Mary’s - Sun 2 April, 12.00pm
 - Little Milton, St James - Sun 9th April 12.00pm
 - Great Haseley, St Peter’s - Tues 25th April 7.30pm
- Simon*

Great Milton Methodist Church Services

For further info. please contact Rev Adam Stevenson on 01491 613223

| April | | | | |
|-------|---------|------------|------------------|----------------|
| Date | Time | Church | Preacher | Detail |
| 2nd | 11:00am | Gt. Milton | Alistair Jackson | |
| 9th | 11:00am | Gt. Milton | Adam Stevenson | |
| 13th | 7:30pm | Watlington | | Holy Communion |
| 14th | 7:30pm | Gt. Milton | Adam Stevenson | |
| 16th | 11:00am | Gt. Milton | Leslie Marsh | Holy Communion |
| 23rd | 11:00am | Gt. Milton | Peter Honeyball | |
| 30th | 11:00am | Gt. Milton | Bob Whorton | |

The Neighbours Club

On the 2nd March we had Ruth Thompson with us from Age Concern to talk about various ways in which Age Concern can help both individuals and groups like ours. She gave us each a booklet containing information and advice regarding 

health, practical help, social activities etc. She also gave us a card which incorporated a thermometer giving ideal temperatures for each room in your house. She impressed the importance of staying warm during winter months. Celia circulated her Treasurer's Report for our perusal and said subscriptions would be collected at our next meeting - this would remain at £5 per annum.

On the 16th March we had Yvonne with us. Whereas before her sessions were known at "Keep Fit with Yvonne" we now have "Chair Yoga with Yvonne". A slight difference but equally as challenging. As always she made it fun so we had some laughs amongst the creaks, cracks and groans !! Will we still be groaning tomorrow??

Our next meeting on the 30th MARCH will be a BRING AND SHARE LUNCH to celebrate FRED'S 95th BIRTHDAY. THIS WILL BE AT 1.00 PM.

Forthcoming Events - April

Thurs 13th - Trish's visit to China - photos - 2.15 p.m.

Wed 19th - Bourton-on-the-Water morning and lunch.

Afternoon Mechanical Music Museum, North Leach.

Thurs 27th - Reminiscence - 2.15 p.m.

The Friends of Great Milton School

'100 Club'

Here is a list of all the recent prize winners of the FOGMS 100 Club – many congratulations to you all!

| | | |
|----------|-------|----------------|
| 7 Feb | No 39 | Carina Martin |
| 14 Feb | No 69 | Julia Lawrence |
| 21 Feb | No 37 | Mrs R Wade |
| 28 Feb | No 48 | Laura Roach |
| 7 March | No 60 | Linda Sargent |
| 14 March | No 27 | Janet Bray |
| 21 March | No 38 | Val Blested |
| 28 March | No 43 | Janet Betts |

Many thanks to all those who support this school fundraiser.

A big thank you to Ann Price for all her help in co-ordinating the draw at the Neighbours Hall and Christine Donnelly for her invaluable help with the prizes.

Keep Lucky!

Laura Putt, 100 Club Co-ordinator

Thank You

Our heart-felt thanks to everyone for their great kindness and thoughtfulness following Stuart's death. A special thank you goes to those who made it possible for us to have a celebration of his life at The Neighbours' Hall and to those who were able to join us on the day.

Stuart loved living in Great Milton and really appreciated the friendliness and warmth of the village. Thank you.

Hazel and Jo Hagger

Great Milton Church Fete June 10th 2017

Dear Villagers

We are now planning for our annual bit of village fun, our fete, and hope you are saving the date. If you can help in any way, please do let one of us know. Many helpers ensure it is more fun! We are particularly keen to hear from those of you who are willing to help or run a stall, and for helpers in setting up or setting down the gazebos and stalls. The gazebos are now mainly pop up so it is easier.

Also, if you have any items for the raffle or ideas for the fete in general, we would love to hear from you!

Alex Kirkman, Celina Bernstrom, Clare Blakeway-Phillips,

Mary Wakefield, Rachel Hutton



GREAT MILTON
HISTORY SOCIETY

Exhibition of Roman and Civil War Artefacts

With no modesty whatever, I have to say that the exhibition was a considerable success! At least 50 people came to see the presentation of Roman and Civil War artefacts – buttons, thimbles, coins, musket balls and much more. It is thought that the soldiers of the Civil War camped here in Great Milton (maybe for the winter), and spent time mending equipment and clothes, and practising their shooting.

Our sincere and grateful thanks to the three landowners who generously loaned their treasures to the History Society. A special thank you to Kevin Benning (Oxford Blues metal detecting club) who not only brought his own collection of Oxfordshire



finds, but also answered all the complicated questions! He is happy to come and check any land should anyone so wish.

We all contributed to the day, but special appreciation must go to Ian Melton, who has worked tirelessly for the past weeks to make this a great day for Great Milton History.

Harvest Festival

I know that this might be a strange time to start talking about Harvest Festival, but we need to think about it now so that we can have a really good display in the parish church this year.

We want to make more of decorating our parish church for the harvest Festival celebrations, which is going to be the week-end of the 16th -17th September this year. Final arrangements have not been made yet, but a beautifully decorated church with flower arrangements, fruit, flowers and vegetables , and possibly with teas also, is what we are planning, so that we can attract lots of people.

I would like you to think now, about growing extra vegetables and flowers for this event. If everyone can bring just a few potatoes, beans, sweetcorn, apples and flowers, we can make a great splash! So when you are in the garden next, sprinkle an extra row of seeds, for the harvest.

A Village View

Do you think it's time to resurrect the 'Letters to the Editor'? Of course, we have the Parish Council where we can say our piece, but there is no other village platform for a question, a criticism, a compliment or just a comment.

Something dear to my heart is the Green. I have contacted the Parish Council on at least 3 occasions concerning the misunderstanding of the road signs – drivers of cars, vans and lorries think it's a roundabout, or fail to see the No Entry sign at all! There is also the damaged corner – this was done at least 18 months ago. Another area for comment is Thame Road, which is now quite dangerous with the huge holes in the surface.

So there are a few points which may arouse some comment/action!

P. Cox

Ed: The Editor welcomes any letters. Nothing offensive or anonymous, thank you.

Senior Citizens Annual Party

The party is scheduled for Saturday 22nd April in The Neighbours Hall at 4:00pm. Invitations have now been delivered to all eligible people 'known' to us. If, for some reason, we have missed you and you would like to come, please ring.

To qualify you need to be in one of the following categories:

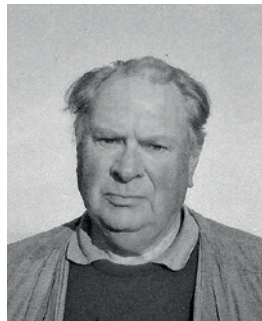
- a) Married Couple. If either spouse is over 65, the partner is invited regardless of age.
- b) Single Lady aged 60 or over.
- c) Single Man aged 65 or over.
- d) Widows and Widowers regardless of age.

Ann Price, Treasurer – 01844 279474

View From Views

April who would have thought we would be here already, and at last it seems that spring is actually here. After we have had what I would call a fairly uneventful winter in this area, although we did have a long period of cold with the lowest temperature -8c, which is not really startling. Without excessive rainfall, February only recorded some 32 mm of rainfall, very little for a month like February. This long period of cold has made everything a bit later this year, not a bad thing on the whole, giving things a chance to relax, now at last it's all waking up, let's hope we have a wonderful spring and summer. This has meant that our crops have "wintered well" as they say, of course our Oil Seed Rape (OSR) has suffered severely from Pigeons, with a bit of luck they have not done too much damage. I cannot understand why they seem to only have targeted certain crops barely touching some, even in adjacent fields something I find inexplicable.

It's remarkable how quickly things start to grow, I reckon the OSR has grown some 18 inches in the last 2 weeks, now even showing flower buds, by the time this is read may well be showing the glorious yellow flowers, Pigeons permitting. The bird song and the dawn chorus at this time of year, after the quiet of the winter months is a sure sign that spring is coming, instilling great optimism for the coming summer. Also, on several occasions I have seen, Snipe rising up from the OSR, to me this is quite unique as I always thought they preferred wet lands which this really is not. Always a surprise in nature!



After a fairly dry February the first few weeks of March, just when we want to get on to the land planting our spring crops, it's wet! Now everything is on hold, if we had not grown some turnips, and then grazed them with sheep, to help the soil structure, we could have ploughed and planted that area of the Farm a month earlier "sods law" just another thing we have to put up with in farming.

As you will all have observed reading my monthly missives I have a keen interest in wildlife and all things natural, well this is all very well as it has it's disadvantages. Some years ago we planted an area of Hazel for coppicing, I have been doing just that in the hopes of getting some nice straight sticks for Bean Poles and for making some hurdles which I do as a past time. To my dismay due to damage by Deer and Squirrels (wildlife) there is very little of use in this plantation of course we could have protected it from the Deer, but without trapping and slaughter there is no control of the pesky Squirrels. We have been suffering a deal of Mole damage in the garden, managing to catch one in the end, now this damage seems to have stopped, I cannot believe one Mole could do so much damage.

One of the topics hitting the headlines at the moment is Fly Tipping, at last it has been publicised that any rubbish tipped on a Farmers land, is the Farmers responsibility, of course I feel this is grossly unfair, as it can be very expensive to get rid of. We are lucky in this area as most of the accessible fly tipping is cleared in double quick time by SODC. It must be a very small proportion of the population, and no one who reads these pages. The real problem is the organised fly tippers, who are difficult to catch as they are organised business activities, and make a lot of money out of clearing peoples rubbish at a much lesser rate than the official channels. I feel the situation is not helped by the government imposing, for very good reasons, the land fill tax making it expensive to get rid of rubbish, needless to say we all go for the cheapest option without understanding the implications. This situation is compounded by the rules, and operatives at waste sites interpretation of the rules, making it difficult for ordinary people to take the right action. An instance comes to mind recently when we took some household waste to the Redbridge tip, because we took it in a double cab Land Rover it was termed trade waste, which could not be left without the proper paperwork, this could not be completed on site as we had to be registered first, all right and proper but a great incentive to find the nearest gateway and someone else's problem.

Whilst on this wonderful subject I think we have to be proud of our local Council in the way they deal with our rubbish, as we are lead to believe, not only are they one of the leading Councils in this respect as they recycle or use 90% of what we throw away. As I see it this is all very well but it is not made obvious to most people which bin each item should go. Although the literature from the council is pretty good, there

are still many grey areas that could be made plainer. I am happy to put anything that I am not sure about in the grey bin (looks more black to me) as I understand it goes for incineration at Ardley. By the way, The neighbours club are organising a visit to the Ardley “Energy Reclamation Unit” (ERU) where our rubbish is incinerated, on the 18th October I would recommend anyone who can make it, to see if there are any free spaces to go on this trip. This is fascinating and helps us all to understand what actually happens to our waste. The contact details for this trip is Mrs Celia Cope Woodbine Cottage, High Street, Great Milton OX44 7NF 01844279459.

Charles Peers

Little Milton WI

Thank you to everyone for coming along to the AGM and for supporting us this year and welcome to our new members. I think this is the most members we’ve ever had! There’s still time to join us and we have a new programme thanks to the committee and the brain-storming session at the pub. We hope you like it, there’s art, crafts, image styling, cake decorating, music, culture, bowling and Pimms!

The hand bells session was a great success, thanks to the Hughes-D’Aeths and friends, and we may have even recruited some new bell-ringers for the church.

Our next meeting is a Stampin’ Up! card workshop with Kate Bodle on Thursday 13th April at 7.30pm. Come along and try a possible new hobby.


Do you live in Little Milton, Great Milton or The Haseleys, want to meet new people, make new friends? Then join Little Milton WI and meet like-minded, local women of all ages in an informal, friendly group.

Too shy to come by yourself? Contact me & I’ll find you a WI buddy.

Keep up to date with WI news & events at www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge and at www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk

Kath Stacey 279438

Great Haseley and District Horticultural Society

We have had very varied weather over the last few weeks. I went to SE Spain to join one of my sisters in her holiday apartment for a few days during the last week in February expecting at least a little sun and warmth, but it really was cool, damp and dull much of the time; this did not stop my Scottish brother-in-law from sporting his 

usual attire of kilt and a shirt whereas the girls were wearing multiple layers including fleece and waterproof. I can certainly understand why there have been vegetable and salad shortages! The poor weather did at least give us Malaga Botanic gardens largely to ourselves. These gardens have only been in council ownership for about 25 years, but have splendid collections of trees and shrubs collected by a family over many decades. The gardens lie on a steep slope so at the top there are magnificent views to be enjoyed over the tree canopy and there is a lovely little café serving homemade food. Entry was the princely sum of 3 Euros and 10 cents for concessions.

On my return home I found much damage caused by the storm. Our meadow used to be two separate fields separated by an old fence and the remains of an ancient hedge. This consisted of three very, very old hawthorns with huge girths and much dieback. We lost one in December 2013 when it simply fell over in a storm which left two. One became completely dead a couple of years ago and, of course, it was the one our son, Paul, and his wife had chosen to plant a rambling rose 'Paul's Himalayan Musk' several years ago. The rose was doing rather well and I was looking forward to a wonderful show this year, but it was not to be. Around 90% of the tree simply fell over and broke up. We managed to rescue some of the rose and propped it back over the remains of the tree. We are hopeful that the last little part will survive a few more years now it is so slim. My other half has planted a young oak next to it which we hope will take over in due course. Despite being a keen chainsaw wielder, he has declared the high broken branches in a large ash to be too dangerous and has called in a tree surgeon (so they must be really dangerous if he is not prepared to tackle them!).

Last week brought some beautiful weather with warmth and sunshine. Spring definitely seems to be on its way! Keep on top of cutting back and weeding and enjoy all the beautiful spring bulbs while they last.

Liz Moyses – liz@moyses.org • 01844 279875

By the time you are reading this I will have stepped down from the GHDHS committee and my role as membership secretary and made way for new blood. However, I will be continuing to write these pieces which I must emphasise are my own opinions and do not reflect the views of the GHDHS.

The new membership secretary is Carys Andrews. Please give her your support in her new role. Her contact details are:

caryselindsay@gmail.com • 07984250752

22 Horse Close, Great Haseley, OX44 7JJ

Thank you to those members who have already paid their subscription for 2016 and may I remind other members that your subscription is now overdue and will be gratefully received.

Great Milton Neighbours' Club Outings 2017

All outings are on Wednesday except August

April 19th

Bourton-on-the-Water morning and lunch. Afternoon at the **Mechanical Music Museum, North Leach**, an award-winning museum with three centuries of home entertainment and self-playing instruments. Cost £22 (museum £6.30, coach £15.70).

May 17th

The Black Country Living Museum, Dudley. '300 years of history in 26 acre open-air museum – experience the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of the past. A whole day of interest.' £25 (entrance £10, coach £15).

June 14th

Morning and lunch in **Worcester**. Afternoon at **Spetchley Park** nearby. 'Wondrous display of plants, shrubs and trees planted over 400 years. Tree peonys, irises, herbaceous borders'. 'A peaceful garden.' £21 (entrance £6, coach £15).

July 12th

Morning and lunch at **Winchester**. On to **Mottisfont Abbey** house and gardens – a National Trust property £25 (entrance £10, coach £15). **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE**.

August 10th (Thursday)

Morning and lunch at **Leamington Spa**. Afternoon at the **Guide Dogs for the Blind Training School**. An interesting 2-hour interactive presentation which has been recommended. Cost coach only £15.

September 6th

Newbury in the morning and lunch at Toby's Carvery. Afternoon on the **Horse-Drawn Boat on the Kennet & Avon Canal**. 2-hour trip, refreshments available on board, starting from Kintbury. Cost £25 (boat £10, coach £15).

October 18th

A 2-hour morning visit to **Viridor Energy Recovery Facility at Ardley, near Bicester**. Greeted with tea/coffee, introduction and tour. Highly recommended as being interesting (can be noisy). Hot lunch at Weston-on-the-Green W.I. Afternoon at Wyevale Garden Centre, Bicester Avenue if wanted. Cost £23 (lunch £8, coach £15).

November 29th

Lunch (to be arranged). Afternoon at **Waddesdon Manor for Christmas Lights and Market**.

If interested, ring Celia Cope – 01844 279459.

News from The Pine Lodge

This month starts with new guitarist, Elliot Morris Live in Concert on 8th April, our regular Craft Club on Wednesday 19th, the last Quiz night of the season on 22nd April, and ending with a Games Evening on Friday 28th April. Come and join the fun, meet new people, learn new things and **support your village hall**. Everyone welcome.

You have a beautiful venue for weddings, parties, reunions and family gatherings on your doorstep. The hub of Little Milton village life, from parties, theatre and concerts to exercise classes, children's clubs, crafts, games evenings and quiz nights. We have space in the diary to welcome you this year. Contact us for more information at www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk and book a celebration to remember.

Clubs this month include a WI Stampin' Up! workshop on Thursday 13th, weekly yoga & fitness on Mondays at 10.30am, Pilates on Wednesdays at 6pm and Fridays at 9.30am, RugbyTots on Wednesdays at 1.30pm and Louise Jane School of Dance on Mondays at 4.15pm.

Keep up to date with news & events at www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge and at www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk

Kath Stacey 279438 / Linda Lovegrove 279535



Haseley Church Spring Fair

Saturday 13th May
Haseley Village Hall

Raffle with excellent prizes,
children's entertainer, plants, cakes, toys,
teas, bottle tombola, children's tombola

Great Haseley Windmill open to celebrate National
Windmill Weekend

Donations for stalls gratefully received



*Returning by popular demand after their very successful
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The Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir



Croeso i Côr meibion Cymry Rhydychen ar y wé

The choir was formed in 1928 by Welshmen who had come to Oxford looking for work at William Morris's car factory and Pressed Steel. Today the choir is more mixed. Many of us are English (although some may have a few drops of Celtic blood!). As a Welsh choir we sing in the traditional 4-part male voice style (1st & 2nd Tenor, Baritone and Bass) and a good proportion of our repertoire is in the Welsh language.

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Tickets £10 on the door, to include a glass of wine



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rung from our church
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EVENTS AT THE PINE LODGE

ELLIOTT MORRIS CONCERT

Saturday 8th April 7:30pm

CRAFT CLUB

Wednesday 19th April 7:30pm

Play board & card games at our new

GAMES EVENING

Friday 28th April 7–10pm

£5, £15 family (from age 8)

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 22nd April 7pm

Ticket includes 2-course dinner

Tickets on sale at LM Shop and Online

www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge

www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk

Hall available for hire

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www.elliottmorris.co.uk

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QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday

22nd April

7:00 @ The Pine Lodge

Tickets include 2-course dinner

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Everyone welcome!

On your own or in a team

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Play board & card games at our new

Games Evening

At the Pine Lodge, Little Milton

Friday 24th March

Friday 28th April

7 – 10pm

Bring a game that you can share with
others or come and learn some new ones
such as "Camel Up" or "Carcassonne"

Come with the family or by yourself

Everyone welcome

£5 per person

£15 per family (minimum age 8)

Plus bar & snacks & free tea/coffee

Drop in or stay for the whole evening

For further details and news visit us at:

www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge

www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk

Great Milton Website

Have you seen the website?

<http://www.great-milton.co.uk/>

It is important to keep it
up to date so please could you
advise Carina Martin of any
updates that need to be made
(carina.martin@gmail.com)

The Three Villages Car Service

The Three Villages Car service
exists to help people who are having
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If you have to get to your GP
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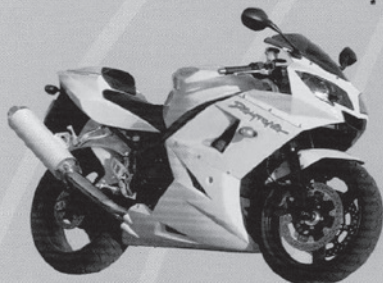
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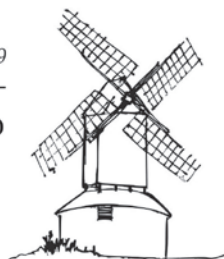
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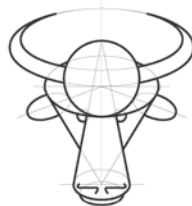
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Diary

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contact Yvonne Cartwright – 01844 279205
- Tuesday Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm *contact Ann Price – 01844 279474*
- Wednesday History Room Open at The Bull. 11:30am – 1:00pm
Fitness & Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 6:00pm – 7:15pm
Athletics Club Training. Year 9-4. Evening. *enquiries.gmac@gmail.com*
- Thursday The Neighbours Club. Alternate Thursdays.
contact Janet Earl – 01844 279432
Sandy Lane Farm Market. 2:00pm – 6:30pm.
contact Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269 www.sandylanefarm.net
Badminton – Great Milton School Hall. 7:00pm – 10:00pm
contact Daphne Holland – 01844 214198
Bellringers – St. Mary's Church Tower. 7:30pm – 9:00pm
contact Pat Cox – 01844 279300. www.gm-bellringers.freeuk.com
- Friday Toddler & Baby Group – The Neighbours Hall. 9:30am – 11:30am
For more information contact Olivia – oliviajhill@hotmail.com
- Saturday Athletics Club Training. Year 9-4. Morning. *enquiries.gmac@gmail.com*
Junior Sports – Recreation Ground. 5–11 years 10:00am – 12:00pm
contact Tash Groves – 01844 279637
Old Field: 2nd Saturday of each month. 10:15am – 12:00pm.
Contact Alex Kirkman – 01844 278090
Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm *contact David Spiers – 01844 218345*

April

- | | | |
|------------|---|---------|
| 1st Sat | Freecycle at The Pavilion | 10:00am |
| | Mozart: Vespers and more... in St. Mary's Church | 7:30pm |
| 13th Thurs | Neighbours Club: Trish's visit to China. Photos. | 2:15pm |
| 18th Tue | Parish Council and Annual Parish Meetings in The Pavilion | 7:00pm |
| 19th Wed | Neighbours Club Outing to Bourton-on-the-Water etc. | — |
| 22nd Sat | Senior Citizens' Annual Party at The Neighbours Hall | 4:00pm |
| 27th Thurs | Neighbours Club: Reminiscence. | 2:15pm |

May

- | | | |
|----------|--|--------|
| 6th Sat | Hippy Haze Band at The Neighbours Hall. | 8:00pm |
| 13th Sat | Haseley Church Spring Fair at Great Haseley Village Hall | — |

All copy (except adverts) to **gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk** by **20th April 2017**.

Adverts to **Helen Cherry** 21 Fullers Field, Great Milton, Oxford OX44 7PJ.

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