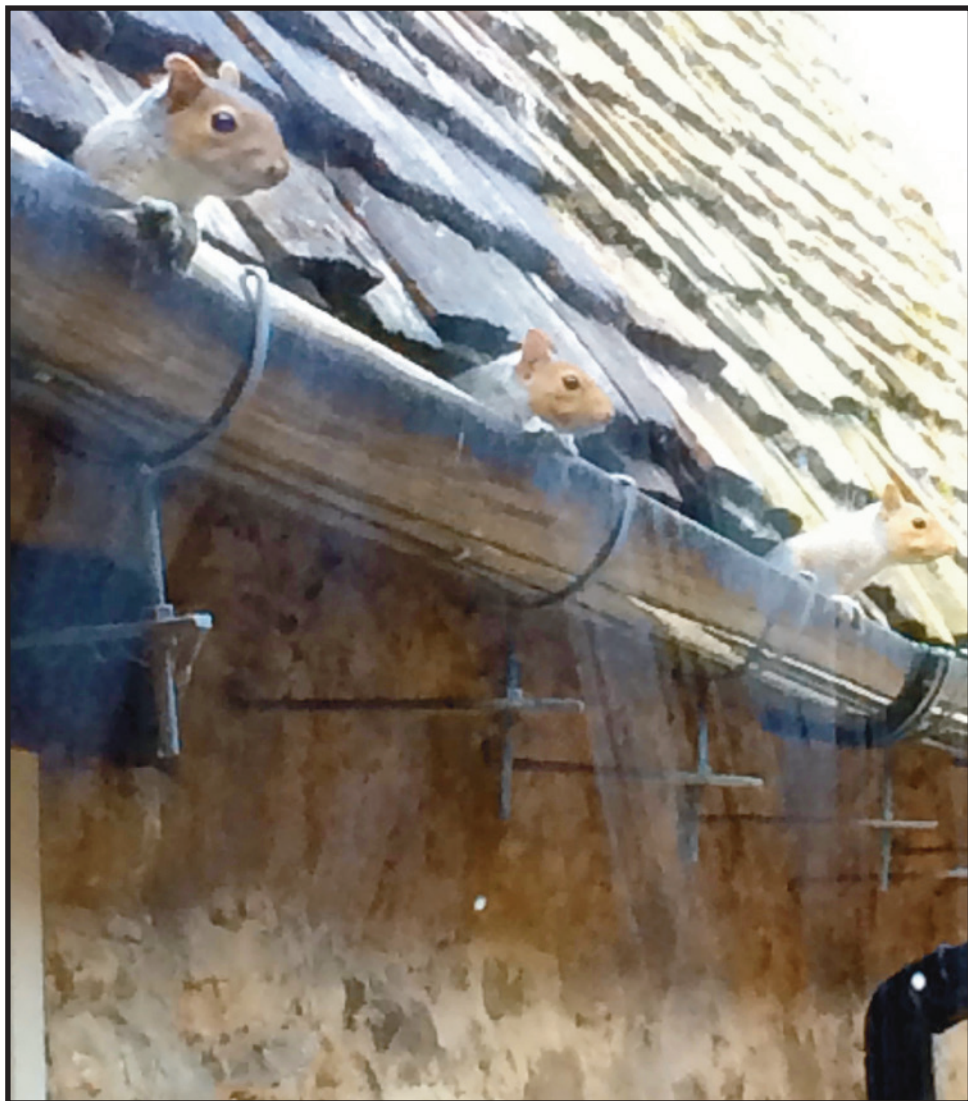


GREAT MILTON BULLETIN

October 2016

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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:	Vacancy	—
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

Three naughty squirrels at the King's Head.

Photo: Denise Pierce.

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

In My Opinion...

I am giving over my slot this month to the Haseley Brook Action Group (HBAG), which is one of the groups campaigning against both Harrington and Chalgrove Airfield developments and, in my opinion, should be supported by everyone who loves our neighbourhood just the way it is, thank you very much!.



However, before I do so I need to ask for a volunteer to come forward to manage the advertising for the Bulletin, as we would like to try and increase the advertising revenue to help cover costs. This will not be an onerous task but our dedicated Parish Clerk has a lot on her plate already, although she will have time to sort through the many applications we expect to receive for this post!

Now, without letting apathy creep in, over to HBAG:

Haseley Brook Action Group

SODC Local Plan 2032

WHO WE ARE

South Oxfordshire District Council's recently published Local Plan 2032 states a preferred option to build a town the size of Thame on Chalgrove Airfield. Their second option could see a town the size of Didcot built next to Junction 7 of the M40 (otherwise known as "Harrington").

Haseley Brook Action Group (HBAG) has been formed to challenge these options, on the basis that neither is sustainable, there are better sites within the plan, closer to infrastructure, public transport and employment that would better serve Oxford's need for housing. Note that the name "Haseley Brook" comes from our District Ward name, which covers a number of Parishes, but we aim to represent any local resident who opposes the Chalgrove Airfield and Harrington sites.

CURRENT STATUS OF SODC's PROPOSALS

SODC's latest consultation into its proposals has recently closed. Responses to this from individual residents and groups such as the Parish Councils will have sent a clear message that, whilst we recognise the need for more housing, the SODC's current proposals are seriously flawed. SODC is currently reviewing the responses and should produce a revision of the plan that will be published for further consultation over the coming months. The final decision has not yet been taken, so the opportunity to influence the decision still exists. HBAG will keep its supporters up to date to ensure that you know about any future consultations so you can have your say.



WHAT WE ARE DOING

There is a critical need to continue to exert influence on SODC during the rest of the planning process. It is quite likely that this is just the start of the campaign and that we will need to continue to argue our case, possibly right up to a Public Enquiry in 2017.

The HBAG group is liaising the Parish Councils and impacted communities and is using local expertise in planning, legal issues and PR to ensure we make the strongest possible case to persuade SODC to change their plan.

WHY WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

HBAG is reliant on the support of the people in the area - the more people we can get to tell SODC that they agree with the concerns that HBAG has raised the more weight it adds to our campaign.

If you want to help stop SODC going ahead with this damaging proposal, go to:

www.savehaseleybrook.com and REGISTER AS A SUPPORTER

From the website link you can also sign our online petition (which already has 600 signatories) and get updates on what is happening. Please also encourage other local friends to join our fight and sign up to HBAG. We are also looking for volunteers to join us in future campaigning (meetings, fundraising events, etc.)

HBAG aims to keep its supporters fully informed on events as they happen.

Storry Warner, Chairman, Haseley Brook Action Group

Draft Notes from the Parish Clerk

The September meeting of Great Milton Parish Council was chaired by Cllr Steve Harrod with Cllrs Bill Fox (Vice-Chair), Peter Allen and Clyde Deacon in attendance. Also present were Helen Cherry (Clerk) and no members of the public. The next meeting is scheduled on Monday 17th October starting at 7.30pm in the Pavilion.

Planning Applications

It was RESOLVED to recommend APPROVAL of P16/S3000/FUL and P16/S3018/FUL Planning Applications received from SODC:

P16/S3000/FUL – Orpwoods Farm, Thame Rd, Great Milton

Erect grain store with apron

P16/S3018/FUL - The Oxford Belfry Hotel London Road Milton Common

Erection of Two Dwellings

Planning decisions received from SODC

P16/S1848/FUL - Heath Farm Thame Road Great Milton OX44 7JD

Demolition of tin workshop and erection of barn for hay storage

South Oxfordshire District Council hereby gives notice that planning permission is GRANTED

Police Report

You said... we did

You said that vehicles are speeding along the B480 from Chalgrove to Stadhampton. On Tuesday 9 August we carried out a speed check on this road with Roads Policing. 19 speeding vehicles were issued tickets for excess speed and one motorist was dealt with for failing to wear a seatbelt.

You said that young people were causing anti-social behaviour (ASB) in Chinnor at night. We have been patrolling the area and engaging with them. This has resulted in fewer reports of ASB in the area. We will continue to patrol the area and engage with the young people.

Thefts from motor vehicles

We have had a spate of thefts from vehicles on the B4009 in Lewknor. To tackle this we have been conducting daily high-visibility preventative patrols around the area during the time frames where the offences have been occurring. We have also been giving motorists in the area crime prevention advice.

Drugs warrant

In August Thame Neighbourhood Policing Team (NHPT) executed a warrant under the Misuse of Drugs Act in Little Milton. During the search a quantity of suspected Class A controlled drugs were seized and the investigation is still ongoing at this time.

Crime prevention advice


Thame has suffered a spate of garage/shed burglaries over the previous month. Please assess your crime reduction/prevention measures to ensure your property is kept safe and secure. The following website will give you some great advice regarding this: www.thecrimepreventionwebsite.com

Pokémon Go

If you have concerns about your child playing this game then the following link from the NCPCC can offer advice and guidance for parents:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/pokemon-go-parents-guide/>

Neighbourhood Watch update

Carol Rudd, the Neighbourhood Watch and Thames Valley Alert Administrator for the South & Vale, has moved on to a new role within Thames Valley 

Police. Your new contact for Neighbourhood Watch and Thames Valleys Alerts is Julia Williams (Neighbourhood Policing Administrator) who can be contacted by emailing: Julia.Williams@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or by calling 101.

Contact us

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email: ThameNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. To view information on your neighbourhood team visit the Thames Valley Police website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by registering at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk today. This allows anyone who signs up to choose what update they receive and how they would like to receive it.

Save the date

Christmas Carols on the Green – Wednesday 14 December at 6pm

GMPC Grass Cutting Tender 2016/17

The Council reviewed five quotes received from Grass Cutting Contractors and after much discussion agreed to appoint “Green and Growing” for the forthcoming year to cut verges, playground area, allotment paths and recreation ground within Great Milton.

Please note that confirmed minutes will be uploaded to Great Milton Parish website <http://www.great-milton.co.uk/>

Helen Cherry, Clerk to Great Milton Parish Council

Great Milton Methodist Church Services

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

October				
Date	Time	Church	Preacher	Detail
2nd	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Simon Pillinger	
9th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Rosemary Davies	
16th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Jennifer Thompson	
23rd	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Leslie Marsh	
30th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Adam Stevenson	Holy Communion Renewal of Vows

Services in Our Benefice for October


	St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton	St. James' Little Milton	St. Peter's Great Haseley
Sunday 2nd <i>Trinity 19</i>	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am	Holy Communion CW 9:30am	Harvest Festival 11:00am
Sunday 9th <i>Trinity 20</i>	Harvest Festival 9:30am	Family Service 11:00am	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am
Sunday 16th <i>Trinity 21</i>	Family Service 11:00am	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am	Holy Communion CW 9:30am
Sunday 23rd <i>Last Sunday after Trinity</i>			Benefice Holy Communion CW 10:00am
Sunday 30th <i>4th Sunday before Advent</i>	Benefice Holy Communion CW 10:00am	Evening Service 6:00pm	

Services in Our Benefice for November

	St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton	St. James' Little Milton	St. Peter's Great Haseley
Sunday 6th <i>3rd Sunday before Advent</i>	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am	Holy Communion CW 9:30am	Family Service 11:00am

Ramblings from the Rectory

Nature's light show was an unexpected surprise and delight to us when we moved here. Our kitchen faces west across the fields, I cleared some of the shrub and small trees just over the fence (with permission!) to open up the view and some of the sunsets we have enjoyed have been spectacular.

September 23rd will have been our first anniversary of the move here, October 19th the anniversary of my institution as Rector. We have marked the passing of year by the position of the setting sun across the fields and also by the cycle of the harvest 

we look out on. It has been quite a year. We have lost five relatives, both our mothers, one of Cath's brothers an uncle and an aunt, all the deaths were anticipated, our closest relatives occurred within four months and so we were a little battered. Settling into the new role has taken time, it has been so different from what I came from. There have been many many good things, there have also been challenges, as is to be expected. I have had to fight insecurity about the numbers coming to the Churches. We have seen some growth which is very encouraging, but it only needs a few people to be away and the effect is keenly felt. I have found it frustrating not to be able to use some of the worship material we were regularly using back in the old place. Things have moved on in the wider christian world but the churches here have rather remained in a bubble, there really is so much more! However, smaller congregations have meant being able to get to know people much better. I have really loved being able to acknowledge people's names as I give them holy communion, that has been a privilege. It has been encouraging to see families come to our family services! The Churches often struggle with resources (me trying to play guitar at some of our family services is confirmation of that!!!) but they are all three generous warm hearted and welcoming communities, for me relationship is key. The plan to put a toilet and a kitchen in Great Haseley is progressing, we are seriously talking about this in Great Milton (as someone recently said to me, about eight or nine hundred years overdue!) at our last PCC in Little Milton it was suggested that this should now be on the agenda. A new vicar will bring one or two changes, I hope these are going down well. There will inevitably be more to come, but as I said when I came for interview, evolution not revolution!

We have genuinely enjoyed being here. We have loved feeling that we are becoming a part of real viable communities. Inevitably Great Milton feels like our home, because of course that is where we live, but we know that we can have a part in the other villages as well. One thing that has been a total delight has been the welcome in the three village pubs. I am of course aware of local issues, one of course being the latest planning proposals and the tensions these generate, but that's life. I saw the Bishop shortly after I started here and he bemoaned where the Rectory is, stuck out on the edge of the village rather than being at the heart of things. But I rather like being here, I like being involved and connected, but I also like to retreat, being able to pull away for a while, that really suits me and my personality and the Rectory reflects that., and where ever I am, the desk is never empty! Then of course there are the sunsets, and when the atmosphere is clear, the night skies, particularly in the autumn and winter, these have been excellent. As we approach our second autumn here that is something to look forward to. 'The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands.' (Ps 19:1).....riches indeed.

Simon

The Neighbours Club

We had a very enjoyable afternoon on the 21st July when we had an afternoon tea. As always there was a lovely display of lots of food both savoury and some gorgeous puddings. There was also a good supply of drinks. Needless to say it all disappeared – where do we put it all – certainly no one would be going home to cook an evening meal!

On the 4th August it was time for Yvonne to come and attempt to keep us fit. Although she works us quite hard she always makes it fun as well.

On the 1st September it was our Harvest Festival. Unfortunately Simon our Vicar was unable to be with us so Tony led the "service". We had a fair amount of produce donated and this was auctioned by Norman and the basket of fruit and vegetables was raffled. It was won by Margaret. The proceeds amounted to £28.45 – this was made up to £30 and sent to CLIC as normal.

On the 7th September we all set off on our outing to Brighton. It was a glorious day with blue skies and bright sunshine the whole time; a very enjoyable day.

On the 15th September our very popular Nick Brazil came to talk about "The Land God Made in Anger – Namibia". Namibia is a vast country and is very beautiful with lots of wildlife. Nick brought along his rescue dog Harold. He has not had him for very long and he does not like being left alone. Everyone loved Harold and he has been made an honorary member of the Neighbours' Club!

Forthcoming Events - October

Wed 5th - Outing to Tower of London and the Museum of London

Thur 13th - Alan Brewer - Up in the Clouds (a career in British Airways)- 2.15 p.m.

Thur 27th - John Fox - Florence, The Flood in 1966 - 2.15 p.m.

Action for Children (formally NCH – National Childrens Homes)

Home Collection Boxes

I would like to thank everyone very much for their kind donations for this years Action for Children home collection box contributions. The total collected this time was £291.42. Every penny is appreciated and helps all the vulnerable and neglected children and young people who are affected by poverty making sure every child and young person supported by Action for Children achieve their full potential.

On behalf of Action for Children a huge thank you.

Yvonne Cartwright

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!

28 June	No 71	Kate Thomas
5 July	No 1	Mrs V Putt
12 July	No 40	Janet Quartly
19 July	No 62	Martin Scully
26 July	No 61	Paula Watts
2 Aug	No 54	Ellen Horsley
9 Aug	No 19	Mrs H James
16 Aug	No 64	Mrs J Jaunet

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!

Miranda Cook, 100 Club Co-ordinator

Senior Citizens Party Committee

Harvest Festival

Wow! What an evening weather-wise! After never having a wet evening since the inception of this event in 1962 – there have been one or two ‘narrow scrapes’ – it would appear we were subjected to 50 plus years’ rainfall in three hours!

However, despite the weather, our loyal customers once again ‘came up trumps’ with £379.00 being raised for Party funds.

Our sincere thanks to all those who provided produce and raffle prizes; to our judges Eileen & John Newell; Simon Cronk for conducting a very enjoyable Thanksgiving service and Les Preston for once again taking on the task of auctioneer. Thanks also to a number of people who, because they were unable to attend on the night, made donations or gave money for the purchase of raffle tickets.

Because of the weather conditions, we have ‘out of the ordinary’ thank yous to make; firstly to Lucy & Tim Darch, and Trevor Parzoska for providing gazeboes, and Lucy & Tim for erecting them, and to the people who held umbrellas to shelter Les Preston and his ‘assistant’ during the auction!

The trophy for the highest points winner was retained by Val & ray Plested, with

the Noble family very close behind.

Once again, our thanks to everyone who contributed in any way.

Ann Price, Treasurer

Sheppard Trust

The next meeting of the Trustees of the Sheppard Trust will be on Thursday, 20th October, 2016. Limited funds are available for distribution and applications are welcomed.

If your group/organisation meets the criteria of being based in Great Milton, and benefitting the inhabitants of Great Milton, please do not hesitate to apply.

Applications should be sent to Jane Willis, Briarwood, Haseley Road, Little Milton, OX44 7QE, or emailed to janewillis1@live.co.uk and should arrive by Monday 10th October 2016.

Well I never... ...but now I can!


Ever fancied singing but never had the opportunity?

Ever fancied singing but never had the money, the courage, the time?

Ever fancied singing but never (thought you) had the ability?

That could all change for you right now.

The Great Milton Singers, begun around 16 years ago, is a local choir for the residents of the local villages - Great and Little Milton, Milton Common, Great and Little Haseley - and, as word has spread, from further afield. We've become an established and proficient choir of around 30 regular singers, meeting on Thursday evenings in an atmosphere that's relaxed and friendly. Many of our singers do not (or did not) "read music", but are carried along with the help of others who do. And by the spirit of rehearsals, which are encouraging and uplifting: sometimes hard work and exhausting, but exhilarating. And there's no feeling in the world to match standing proudly at the end of a public concert (usually in St Mary's, Great Milton), enjoying tumultuous applause and knowing that you and your fellow singers have worked together to produce a harmonious and polished performance.

If ever there was a good time to join, it's now. This season, we're working on an un-staged performance of the comic operetta "Iolanthe" by Gilbert and Sullivan. We performed their "HMS Pinafore" a couple of years ago - to great acclaim - and 

this term's work, with its ridiculous references to Peers and Fairies, has some glorious choruses (not too taxing at all) and fun songs, which will be performed by our regular favourite visiting soloists (many of whom ask to be invited back - and we never say no!!)

So, if you're free to perform with us on November 19th, can make every Thursday from September 29th - November 17th (we understand you may have to miss the odd one, but it's only fair to everyone that we all attend) and you have a long-felt (or not-so-long) yearning to sing your heart out, then come along. We meet in the Methodist Chapel in Great Milton from 7:30pm.

All our regulars will be there to encourage and support you; we'll sing some stuff that everyone knows to get ourselves in the mood; and we'll have a look at some of the music we'll be singing this term. If you like, get in touch with:

Kate	topcopykate@btinternet.com	01844 339236	07729 87244
Kate	katepattinson@yahoo.co.uk	01844279204	07817 779162
Alex	alexlkirkman@gmail.com	01844 278090	07759441006
Jane	janejefferis@btinternet.com	01844 278743	07762 137073
Antony	theaytons@me.com	01844 278679	07788 47226
Mark	richardsonmark@btinternet.com	01844 278479	
Clare	clareblakeway@googlemail.com	01844 278475	07909522397
Emily	emilyajohns@hotmail.com		
Sue	sue@greatmilton.fsnet.co.uk	01844 279214	07771978925
Mary	mary@pwfca.co.uk	01844 279045	

and we'll organise for one of the singers to walk along with you, so you don't have to pitch up on your own.

And you never know, you may end up on TV, as we have done before, for the BBC's Songs of Praise at Blenheim Palace and Raymond Blanc's Christmas Special.



Councils Binning Black and Coloured Sacks in Recycling Bins

From November, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils will only empty green wheelie bins if the recycling in them is loose or in clear sacks.

Despite a recent campaign to raise awareness of the issue, some people are still putting in things like food waste and dirty nappies, contaminating whole truckloads of recycling - when these things are put into recycling bins in black or coloured sacks they're not spotted until it's too late.

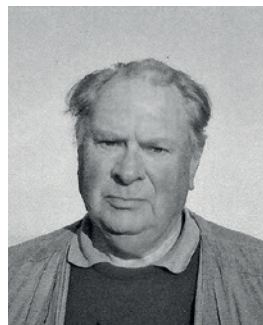
If there's a sack in a recycling bin and the waste crews can't see what's in it, they'll have to assume it contains contamination and won't empty it.

Councillor Tony Harbour, cabinet member for waste at South Oxfordshire District Council, said: "Contaminated recycling has become a real issue that we have to tackle. Insisting on loose recycling or clear sacks is a simple change that will make a big difference – and most people won't be affected. If you do want to use bin-bags in your green bin, you can use clear ones, which are available from most large supermarkets and hardware stores. In most cases, clear sacks work out cheaper than black ones."

Councillor Charlotte Dickson, cabinet member for waste at Vale of White Horse District Council, said: "Throughout October we'll leave a note on any bins with the wrong colour sack in it to explain the problem – we'll empty the bin on that occasion, but from November we'll then have to start leaving them unemptied to help us protect everybody else's recycling from getting contaminated."

View From Views

What a difference in the weather since I last wrote, by the middle of August all our harvest was finished, without any hitches save the combine on the very last field picking up and swallowing a large stone doing a deal of damage, this all due to us being unable to roll the field after planting. The resultant yields on the whole disappointing, Rape having suffered from the effects of insect damage allowing pigeons to decimate large areas of the crop, owing to the fact we cannot now use certain chemicals, Winter wheat bad infestations of Black grass inspite of the cultural actions we had made that we thought would have overcome the problem, so the fight continues, also the very wet weather we encountered in May and June did not help. However the Spring Barley seems to have enjoyed the conditions as the yields were on the whole good



with a very good looking samples, as yet we have not had any analytical results as to its quality, but looking hopeful. On the plus side there seems to be a slight upward movement in the prices due to the devaluation of the pound following Brexit, and the same weather having a greater effect on the French Wheat harvest where the quality is reported as being poor.

Having said in the past that I am mystified by the fact that we see plenty of Jackdaws in the village but none here I have seen on two consecutive days around the turn of the month a lot, on a morning flight with Rooks, briefly gathering around our house, making a pattering noise as they crawl over the roof, quite inexplicable but interesting. These birds only spending about half an hour around here then dispersing about their daily chores.

Also since I last wrote we have learnt of the threat of large housing developments in our area, anyone who reads this column will know my feelings on this issue so I will not bore you with it all again. However it has become clear since attending several local meetings on the subject there are other issues that have been over looked, illustrating there are serious inconsistencies in the Government's calculations on the actual needs, it is good to know that our local councillor is aware and is making those that matter take note, which is very reassuring. There are all sorts of reasons and counter reasons for objecting to any such plans and the consultation process, firstly the time scale, fancy expecting comment on a very complicated document (The Local Plan) in about 3 weeks in a holiday period. Why cannot those affected be asked some very simple questions in the first place like would you prefer to enlarge villages? (Where local services are under pressure needing more support). Should the green Belt that is now some 60 years old be modified? If this sudden demand for houses is due to the expansion of Oxford why cannot Oxford build up like any other town or city, as long as it is properly planned Unlike the Castle Meadow Development? I also feel there are plenty of sites within the City limits that are not being used for this purpose. I also gather that some of the pressure comes from the fact that developers are hanging on to sites that already have permission on, just to increase their value, or that they cannot sell the houses they build, begging the question of the real demand, also should there not be some curb on second homes (weekend cottages), this I know is not easy but when there is pressure something has to give.

Yet again Farming is under pressure from conservationists big headlines in a Sunday paper a few weeks ago, "100 Species Doomed as Farms Sterilise Land", this all very well for those with a full belly to make that sort of comment. Yes of course we are in danger of having that effect by our actions, living in a world where cost is everything and we are all looking for the cheapest option, or the easiest way out, this is what has

happens. Again as anyone who reads this column will know I personally, and most other farmers, do care about the environment, and are taking measures to correct some of the so called ills of the past, but until we can be sure that we can be properly recompensed for the extra costs involved it will take longer otherwise nothing much will change. I can say that we here have taken all sorts of measures to try and arrest this problem, planted 80% more hedges than we have taken out, planted thousands of trees where there weren't any before to name but a few. This particular article blames the shooting of hares having an effect on their population we have not shot a hare on our land for some 10 years and then at least 10 or 15 years before that, when there were plenty of them about, our shooting is not all that good anyway, the hare population does vary naturally. No mention is made of the effect that the protection of predators has had on some species either, the fact that the incident of illegal hare coursing being on the increase, or the above mentioned development, I could go on and bore you more, but everything is not as it seems and please give us some credit for what a lot of us are doing.

Charles Peers

Little Milton WI

We had a full house in September for Christine Green's paper-cutting talk and she made us a new logo - see the photo on the website.

Our next meeting is Bollywood dancing on 13th October at 7.30pm with Kally Peigne from Betty Bloom Dance. Bring comfy clothing and trainers or dance shoes and come and have a go. Suitable for all levels of fitness.

We are also hosting the Thameside Group meeting on Thursday 27th October at 7.30pm with a Brass rubbing talk, demo and practical.

Everyone welcome to both meetings, visitors £3.

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.

No need to be shy, contact me for more information.

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

Kath Stacey 279438

News From The Pine Lodge

Our first Quiz of the season went well, thank you to Quizmaster Mike, to Dee for a delicious tagine and to the committee & husbands for running the show.

The hall is a beautiful venue for weddings, parties, events & meetings with reduced rates for villagers. Children's parties are also at villager prices if your child attends Little Milton School or the Orchard. Contact Linda for more information.

October clubs include Crafts on Wednesday 19th, WI on Thursday 13th when we'll be learning Bollywood dancing and weekly yoga & fitness on Mondays at 10.30am. We also have two children's clubs: RugbyTots on Wednesdays at 1.30pm (www.rugbytots.co.uk/Class/Details/9034) and Louise Jane School of Dance on Mondays at 4.15pm (www.louisejanedance.com/timetable/).

The committee welcomed Marion & Maggie to our last meeting, but if there are any other villagers out there who can help us with catering, organising, new ideas, or in any way, please contact us. It's a great way to get to know local people and feel part of the community.

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

Kath Stacey 279438 / Linda Lovegrove 279535

Great Haseley And District Horticultural Society

The weather last week in mid-September was quite a surprise to me. I had looked outside on Tuesday morning and seen dull cloudy weather and inside my home it was cool (the temperature only changes very slowly due to the thick stone walls). Therefore, I was unprepared for the stifling humid heat which hit me when I opened the front door. It has been described as an Indian Summer so I decided to look into this term which has a long history. I concluded it did not fulfil the criteria of being late-September to mid-November or following a period of killing frost so could not be correctly termed an Indian Summer. However, that has not stopped me enjoying the sun and warmth.

I had hoped to get a lot done out in the garden that Tuesday, but it was simply too hot for heavy manual labour so I had a rethink and headed for the meadow to spot treat with selective weed killer the large thistles and the patches of nettles which persist despite all the hard work we have put into removing them.

Thistles are a problem for haymaking as the prickles persist after drying and if they

are present in any number cattle refuse to eat the hay or silage. The annual thistles which are still very persistent are not easy to spot treat as they do not present a large enough area to accurately treat so we tend to pull them by hand when they reach flowering size (I've told you before it is a labour of love!) which is not difficult, but can be painful! The larger thistles grow into magnificent plants, but are not what we want in the meadow nor in the garden for obvious reasons. My other half likes to cultivate Scotch thistles which I admit are architectural and have lovely grey stems and foliage, but he doesn't do the weeding and I find that they are very painful and are too big for the beds so I remove them when I see them. I note there are currently some on the compost heap so I have left those as he is the person who digs the compost... I digress. The large thistles respond extremely well to a very small amount of weed killer applied to the centre of the rosette from which the flowering spike rises. My attempts to dig them out have not been too successful as separate plants arise from each bit of root remaining and the plant becomes even bigger and more majestic than usual.

Nettles are less of an issue in hay as they are not a problem when dried as they no longer sting, but we try to keep them to a minimum and they are very sensitive to the weed killer. If we miss them, we tend to cut the stems off prior to the hay being collected. I think there must have been something odd about the weather this year as the meadow has a large patch of field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) which has not been a problem before (although it is a problem in the garden). This weed dramatically reduces agricultural yields and swamps everything, but is difficult to control as its roots are deep and its seeds are long-lived in the soil. I couldn't decide what to do prior to the hay being cut and so did nothing, but recent warmth and dampness have produced a lot of regrowth so I have sprayed this area and hope it will be reduced next summer. I think it is likely I will need to repeat this next spring, but I don't like to do general spraying as of course all the beautiful flowering plants we are endeavouring to establish are also killed. I am trying to be careful. Ideally I would prefer not to spray at all, but I do not think we could have achieved any kind of weed control by hand in the meadow without it as its condition was dreadful when we started.

Liz Moyses

Membership secretary

liz@moyses.org

01844 279875

Please contact me for further details of membership which costs only £5 per family per year.

Ex-Librarian Edna Backs Voluntary Book Scheme

A former Oxfordshire librarian has rekindled her love of books thanks to a voluntary service bringing the joy of reading to those who can't access their local library.

Edna Malcher, 88, who gets books delivered by the Home Library Service, is urging more people to give up some time to help the scheme grow across the county.

Life-line

The former library worker said the service was a “life-line” which enabled her to connect with others in the community and share her passion for reading.

Edna, who lives in Banbury, said: “The person who comes to visit is very nice and friendly. I get the bag ready for him to swap and he makes sure that he brings books that I’m interested in or have requested. The main thing is having contact with someone, especially someone so pleasant. It’s very important to make a good impression – I’ve seen that from both sides having worked for the library and now using the Home Library Service.

“It’s also a way to connect with people in the local community. I’ve struck up a friendship with a neighbour over our love of books.”

Flexible role

Volunteers can organise drop-off times with the people they deliver to, making the role easy to fit around existing commitments. Expenses are paid and volunteers can do as many or as few journeys as they wish.

Volunteer Alison Baxter from Temple Cowley said: “After I retired I was looking for useful ways to fill my time and chose the Home Library Service because it was something I felt strongly about. I would be devastated if I could no longer access a library and I don’t want that to happen to other people.

“It isn’t a big commitment and can be fitted in easily around the rest of my life. It only takes an hour or so every three weeks.

“The service is important to the lady I visit because she needs something to occupy her time. I think she also enjoys having someone drop in for a chat because she doesn’t get out as much as she used, and I’ve enjoyed getting to know her.”

“Friendly face”

Oxfordshire County Council’s Cabinet Member for Cultural Services Lorraine Lindsay Gale said: “Volunteers are a friendly face who can stop by once every three weeks to bring customers some new books or CDs and spend some time to share their own stories.”

“The Home Library Service brings entertainment, pleasure and human contact to people, where they may otherwise have little or none. But of course it wouldn’t be

possible without volunteers. We'd love to hear from anyone interested in making a positive difference to the lives of people in the community who need a bit of extra help."

For more information visit: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/homelibrary

More quotes from volunteers:

- Volunteer Rachel McQuilliam from Woodstock said: "I decided to volunteer for the Home Library Service because I love reading and choosing books from the library; I imagined what it would be like if couldn't get to a library anymore and wanted to do something to help those who can't. It's a small thing that I can fit in easily around work and other commitments but it makes a big difference to the people I visit."
- Volunteer Anna Tilley from Watlington said: "I feel strongly that the library is a wonderful community resource that should be available to all members of our community, whether they can get to the library itself or not. Since becoming a volunteer I have been able to meet two lovely ladies that otherwise I would not have known. I have learnt a lot from them and really enjoy visiting them."
- Volunteer Gracie Beale from Faringdon said: "I know the importance of having literature and company in my life now I'm living alone, so I thought it's important to reach out to others who may not have much contact with the outside world. "It's fulfilling and very rewarding. The ladies I deliver to are keen to chat and talk about the authors and the plots."



Home Library Service user Edna Malcher.

John Howell MP writes...

The summer months give many of us the opportunity to catch up with a number of things and this is true of MPs too. Of course like others many MPs take a holiday during the recess. Without the pressures of Parliament sitting the rest of the time gives space for other visits and meetings that too often get squeezed out.

Around the constituency I was delighted to celebrate with residents of Cuxham that fibre broadband had been installed. This was the first community to benefit from the second phase of the multi-million pound Better Broadband for Oxfordshire programme and I look forward to being able to celebrate with many more as the roll-out progresses. In the north of the constituency the residents of Noke celebrated the installation of their new play equipment. Noke is an isolated village and so the play equipment gives the young people a focus for meeting and playing together. The community had been fundraising for some time and celebrated the successful conclusion of this project. At the same time they had a delayed celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday. In Henley the 7th Regatta for the Disabled took place and I was delighted to be asked to open this once again. It is a real pleasure to see the river being used by those less able and to see the enjoyment that is derived from this regatta.

Now that Parliament is back the pace has stepped up again - on the first day back the House did not adjourn until 11.30pm as we debated the final stages of the Finance Bill. One Bill which I have been awaiting has now been set before the house and that is the Neighbourhood Planning Bill. The Bill seeks to speed up and strengthen the Neighbourhood Planning process, something that I have long supported and encouraged. There have been concerns locally in recent months that Neighbourhood Planning is being undermined by other planning factors. In planning there are many shades of grey and key applications are rarely 'black and white'. The more clarity we can get direct from Government the better.

Later this month Parliament will again go into recess for the Party Conference season. As has become my habit in this recess I have again set up a series of meetings across the constituency to enable me to meet with constituents share thoughts and discuss their concerns. Inevitably many of these meetings are during the daytime and I appreciate that this limits access for those with other commitments. If anyone would like to raise an issue but is unable to get to a meeting please do feel free to contact me. Full contact details are available on my website www.johnhowellmp.com/contact

To receive my regular e-newsletters and briefings please email me to be added to the circulation list at john.howell@oxfordshireconservatives.com

Go Active Gold
Yoga for the over 60's



Yoga will be taking place in **Holton Village Hall**. The class is suitable for all ability levels with the benefits including improving flexibility, muscle strength, posture, bone health and drains your lymphs whilst boosting immunity.

Starts: Tuesday 13 September 2016

Time: 10:00am – 11:00am

Price: £5

Where: Holton Village Hall

If you would like to register your interest or book on to a class

Email: Conor.Grogan@southandvale.gov.uk

Number: 07717 326660

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)

Orchestra of St John's **Prom concerts at the** **Ashmolean Museum Oxford**

Tuesday 11 July 7.30

Angell Trio - violin, cello and piano
Katherine Broderick soprano

Tuesday 4 October 7.30

OSJ with Wagner Moreira tenor
Latin American songs

Tuesday 15 November 7.30

OSJ with Francesca Saracino soprano
Mahler and Mendelssohn

Sunday 18 December 7.30
OSJ Ashmolean Voices



Tickets www.osj.org.uk 01865 305305

St. Mary's Church, Great Milton

Harvest Festival

Sunday 9th October 2016



Please come and help us celebrate the harvest at our church service and at our harvest lunch.

Harvest Service 9.30am St. Mary's Church



Harvest Lunch 13.00

Neighbours Hall, Great Milton

No tickets: Suggested donation of £5.00 on the door.

**(Offers of salads or puddings welcomed -
please contact Clare BP or Jane Jefferis)**

3rd Annual Great Milton Apple Festival and Autumn Walk

Saturday 14th October
Apple Pressing: 10am - 7pm
Walk Start: 1:30pm



In the Garden at The Bull

Come along to press your own apples (or other fruits) into juice. Apples provided if you just want to do juice making.

50p per bottle for fresh juice - drink within 4 days
£1 per bottle pasteurised in used bottles - drink within 12 months
£2 per bottle in new green bottles - drink within 12 months

Lots of fun for all the family:
Craft activities and Apple Bobbing
Refreshments available

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WITH THANKS TO ALL AT THE BULL AND TO THE PEERS FAMILY

Go Active Gold
Pilates for the over 60's



Pilates for the over 60's will be taking place in **Great Milton Pavilion on the Recreation Ground.**

Benefits: Improves core strength, posture, balance, joint mobility, as well as relieve stress and tension.

Starts: Friday 4 November

Time: 1.30pm – 2.30pm

Price: £5

Where: Great Milton Pavilion

Vintage Village Games

Join us and participate in fun and friendly games, meet new people and learn new skills. **Teams will be allocated on the day and compete in the following games:** (seated or standing) Skittles, indoor croquet, new age bowls, and new age curling.

Starts: Tuesday 6 December

Time: 10:00am -12:00pm

Price: £2

Where: Great Milton Pavilion

If you would like to register your interest or book on to a class

Email: Conor.Grogan@southandvale.gov.uk

Number: 07717 326660



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www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge

www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk

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Saturday 5th November

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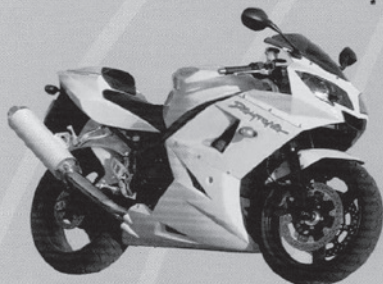
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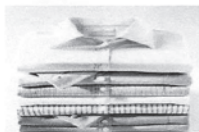
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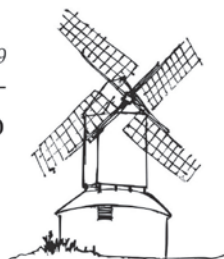
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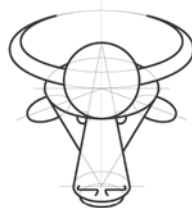
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- Tuesday Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm *contact Ann Price – 01844 279474*
- Wednesday History Room Open at The Bull. 11:30am – 1:00pm
Fitness & Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 6:00pm – 7:15pm
Athletics Club Training. Year 9-4. Evening. *enquiries.gmac@gmail.com*
- 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
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Bellringers – St. Mary's Church Tower. 7:30pm – 9:00pm
contact Pat Cox – 01844 279300. www.gm-bellringers.freeuk.com
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For more information contact Olivia – oliviajhill@hotmail.com
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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*

October

- | | | |
|------------|---|---------|
| 9th Sun | Harvest Festival at St. Mary's Church | 9:30am |
| 17th Mon | Parish Council Meeting in The Pavilion | 7:30pm |
| 13th Thurs | Neighbours Club: Up in the Clouds with Alan Brewer | 2:15pm |
| | Little Milton W.I.: Bollywood Dancing with Kally Peigne | |
| 14th Sat | Apple Festival and Autumn Walk at The Bull | 10:00am |
| 20th Thurs | Sheppard Trust Meeting | — |
| 27th Thurs | Neighbours Club: Florence, The Flood with John Fox | 2:15pm |

November

- | | | |
|----------|--|--------|
| 4th Fri | Music & Firework Spectacular at The Primary School | 6:00pm |
| 19th Sat | GM Singers: Gilbert & Sullivan's Iolanthe at St. Mary's Church | 7:30pm |

All copy (except adverts) to **gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk** by **20th October 2016**.

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

07554 516989 • **contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk**

Paper copy to **Jonathan Dudley**

Sheppard Cottage, Lychgate Lane, Great Milton, Oxford OX44 7PB.

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