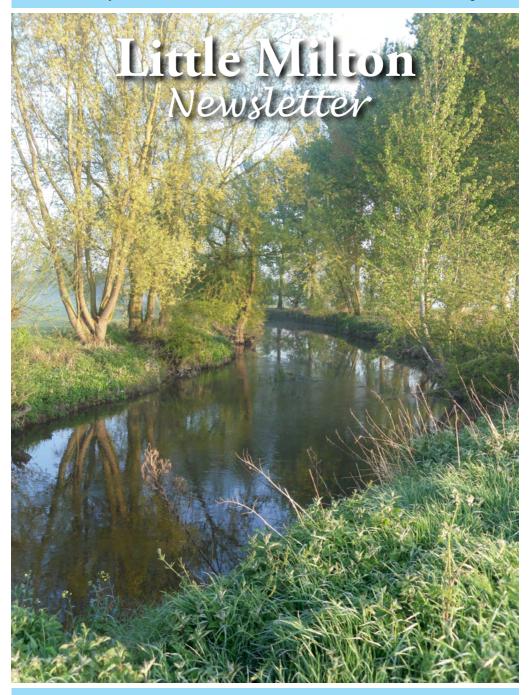
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May 2024

## HANDMADEOxford

THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY CRAFTS FESTIVAL

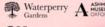
21 - 23 June 2024

#### Waterperry Gardens Oxford

Organised by

HANDMADE in Britain

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ADVANCE TICKETS (at preferential rates) Festival only Standard Adult £11 / VIP £17 Garden & Festival Standard Adult £19 / VIP £25

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO BUY TICKETS

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FESTIVAL HOURS Fri 21 - Sun 23 June 2024 VIP 9:30am - 5.00pm / General 10am - 5pm Concession tickets for students (18+) with ID and seniors (60+) Free entry for children under 14 and carers Assistance Animals and well-behaved dogs welcome Free car parking

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: MAY 2024

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: MAY 2024				
Wed	1st	9.30 – 3.30 p.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge	
Thurs	2nd	6.00 – 7.00 p.m.	Adv. Textile workshop – Pine Lodge	
Frid	3rd	9.30 a.m.	Keep Fit – Pine Lodge	
		7.30 p.m.	Spring Fling – Village Hall	
Sat	4th	12.00 p.m.	Annual Parish Meeting – Pine Lodge	
Sun	5th	9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion CW St James'	
Mon	6th	10.30-11.30a.m	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge	
Tues	7th	9.30–10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge	
Wed	8th	9.30 – 3.30 p.m.	Adv. Textile workshop – Pine Lodge	
		7.30 p.m.	Parish Council– Pine Lodge	
Thurs	9th	6.00 – 7.00 p.m.	Exercise Class – Pine :Lodge	
		7.30 p.m.	WI – Pine Lodge	
Frid	10th	9.30 a.m.	Keep Fit – Pine Lodge	
Sun	12th	10.30 a.m.	Family Worship St James'	
Mon.	13th	10.30-11.30a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge	
Tues.	14th	9.30–10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge	
Wed	15th	9.30 – 3.30 p.m.	Adv. Textile workshop – Pine Lodge	
		7.00 p.m.	Craft Evening – Pine Lodge	
Thurs	16th	6.00 – 7.00 p.m.	Exercise Class – Pine :Lodge	
Frid	17th	9.30 a.m.	Keep Fit - Pine Lodge	
Mon	20th	10.30-11.30 a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge	
Tues	21st	9.30–10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge	
Wed	22nd	9.30 – 3.30 p.m.	Adv. Textile workshop – Pine Lodge	
		11.00 a.m.	Sewing Group: Sarah McLean MMD	
Thurs	23rd	6.00 – 7.00 p.m.	Exercise Class – Pine :Lodge	
Frid	24th	9.30 a.m.	Keep Fit – Pine Lodge	
Sun	26th	9.00 a.m.	Benefice Family Communion	
			– St James'	
Mon	27th	10.30-11.30a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge	
Tues	28th	9.30–10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge	
Wed	29th	9.30 – 3.30 p.m.	Adv. Textile workshop – Pine Lodge	
Thurs	30th	6.00 – 7.00 p.m.	Exercise Class – Pine :Lodge	
Frid	31st	9.30 a.m.	Keep Fit - Pine Lodge	
JUNE				
Sun	5th	9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion CW St James'	

<u>**PLEASE NOTE**</u> If in doubt please check with the event organiser that the event is still taking place at the date and time stated.

## SUMMARY FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL2024

Below is a summary of some of the topics and discussions which took place at the Parish Council meeting held in April.

#### Planning

P24/S0951/HH - 31 Chiltern View, Little Milton, OX44 7OP Single storev rear extension in place of an existing conservatory. **Resolved** to **Fully Support** 

P24/S1147/S73 – The Site of Milton House, Gold Street, Little Milton

Variation of conditions 2 (Approved plans), 3 (Construction Traffic Management), 4 (Archaeology), 6 (Tree Protection), 7 (Surface water drainage works), 8 (District Licence certificate), 12 (Vision splav protection) and 13 (Parking & Manoeuvring Areas Retained) on application P22/S1241/FUL (Demolition of existing dwelling. Redevelopment of existing site to provide 4 dwellings with associated development including access works to Gold Street access).

#### **Resolved No Strong Views**

To **note** the District Planning Authority has granted permission for the following applications:

P23/S3821/LB - Manor House, Church Hill, Little Milton, OX44 7QB

Repairs and alterations to Grade II\* listed dwelling, barn and shed. (As amended by plans 002A and 001A which retain the expression of the original plan form with down stands and corbels received 12 December 2023 and email from agent dated 4 March 2024 removing dovecot and pool house from the application).

P24/S0570/LB - Plum Tree Cottage, High Street, Little Milton, OX44 7PU

Replace windows to the cottage and garage.

#### **Report by District / County Councillor**

District Cllr Heritage had circulated her report prior to the meeting. Cllr Heritage drew attention to National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) changes, especially in terms of the land supply requirement, which was previously set at five years. Housing targets are now moving to a more 'advisory' position, rather than a mandatory annual submission requirement, depending on the status of an area's Local Plan.

There are transitional arrangements of a new four-year supply test, which is relevant if the Local Planning Authority has published a Reg 18 or Reg 19 version of an emerging Local Plan (like South and Vale's Joint Local Plan). This applies for two years from the December 2023 NPPF update.

#### Annual Parish Meeting – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024, Pine Lodge at 12 noon

For the first time the Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on a Saturday, all residents are welcome to attend. It's a great opportunity to hear from representatives of community groups and find out how they contribute to the vibrancy of the village. In addition, the Parish Council want to hear from as many residents as possible on ideas on how Community Infrastructure Levy receipts of just over £72k, related to development in the village can be spent on infrastructure that will benefit the village.

#### Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th May 2024, in Pine Lodge, commencing at 7.30pm.

Please visit the Parish Council website to read full minutes of Parish Council meetings. Andrea Oughton, Parish Clerk

#### **Current Council members**

Current Council members	
Councillor Francois Van Der Merwe (Chairman)	07740 438770
Councillor Howard Harrison	01844 279946
Councillor Adam Sheppard	01844 279217
Councillor Ed Horwell	07527 346187
Councillor Giles Denby	07484 187852
Councillor David Wakeling	01844 278014
Parish Clerk Andrea Oughton	clerk@littlemilton.org.uk
County Councillor: Freddie Van Mierlo	07944 492438
	freddie.vanmierlo@oxfordshire
	.gov.uk
District Councillor Georgina Heritage	georgina.heritage@southoxon.
	gov.uk

## SODC: WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

The minimum charge is  $\pounds 49.50$  for up to 3 items and  $\pounds 9.50$  for each additional item. There is a maximum of six items per collection day: if you have more than six, you'll need to book another collection day. Please note that a bed and mattress counts as 2 items and a three piece suite (consisting of 1 settee and 2 chairs) counts as 3 items.

# Before you contact us to book your bulky waste collection, have a good think about whether you have any other big items to dispose of. Once we have processed your booking, we are unable to make any alterations or add any other items – even if you have only booked one or two items.

To arrange this service residents can call the Public Amenities Team on 01235 422406 or book on line from the Council's website <u>www.southoxon.gov.uk</u>

#### Give your furniture to a good home

Have you considered donating your furniture to charity or a good home? Emmaus is an Oxford based charity that will come out to all areas of the county and collect unwanted furniture free of charge. For legal or practical reasons this does not include soft furnishings without a fire label, safety items, or any item that is not in a saleable condition. Please <u>visit the Emmaus website</u> for more details.

	Brown	Grey	Green	Food
8th May (change)	No	Yes	No	Yes
14th May	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
21st May	No	Yes	No	Yes
28th May	Yes	No	Yes	Yes

## **BIFFA: WASTE COLLECTION DATES – MAY 2024**

## **DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE: GEORGINA HERITAGE**

My Meetings and Activity

Since my last report I have attended the following SODC meetings and committees: 19<sup>th</sup> March – Planning Briefing on NPFF changes, 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Planning Committee

**The Planning Briefing on National Planning Policy Framework Changes** was especially interesting in terms of the land supply requirement, which was previously set at 5 years. Housing targets are now moving to a more "advisory" position, rather than a mandatory annual submission requirement, depending on the status of an area's Local Plan. Land supply is something I'm often asked about in parish council meetings, so I hope you will find this information to be useful:

The addition of paragraph 76 means that Local Planning Authorities will no longer be required to demonstrate a 5-year housing land supply if their adopted plan is less than five years old, and that adopted plan identified at least a five year supply of housing sites when examination concluded.

There are transitional arrangements of a new four year supply test, which is relevant if the LPA has published a Reg 18 or Reg 19 version of emerging Local Plan *(like South and Vale's Joint Local Plan)*. This applies for two years from the December 2023 NPPF update.

There will also be weighting against major speculating developments in areas with a Neighbourhood Plan of 5 years old or less, as long as the Neighbourhood Plan contains policies on and allocation of housing land.

#### Great British Spring Clean - Litter Picking and Fly Tipping

On 23<sup>rd</sup> March, Cllr Ed Sadler (Chinnor ward) and I took part in Lewknor's "Great British Spring Clean", and I know there have been fantastic efforts from residents throughout the Haseley Brook ward and South Oxon in this initiative. Through my own involvement and correspondence from other parishes, I became especially aware of the problem of bulky fly tipped items of waste retrieved by residents from roadside banks and hedges. I reported these piles of "heavy duty" waste to a waste recycling officer and they should now have all been collected. I have also requested more information from Biffa regarding their policy on waste clearance from certain areas in the ward deemed to be inaccessible, yet which volunteer residents have been accessing for the parish spring cleans. Cabinet member Cllr Sue Cooper has been supporting me with this and, as a first step, I will be meeting with a senior manager from Biffa next week to address the ongoing litter and fly tipping problems along the banks of the B4009, with the hope of establishing a longer-term strategy

## Council Car Park Fees

New fees for car parks in South Oxfordshire are being introduced from April 1. The car park fees are being simplified and rounded to the nearest whole pound, while all car parks will continue to have a period of free parking. This means some of the fees are being reduced by up to 16 percent while other will see modest increases. Parking permits rates have also been frozen The additional parking income from the rises means SODC can match the cost of managing and running our car parks, otherwise we'd have to divert funding from other council services to subsidise car parking. All funds from car parking fees and permits are invested back into providing the service and making improvements to car parks, highways, public conveniences and public open spaces, as well as developing infrastructure to encourage active travel – such as cycle paths and bike storage. Parking for the first hour remains free in all Didcot, Thame and Henley public car parks.

There is a growing body of evidence that shows the number of car parking spaces available is a bigger factor in encouraging people to a town centre than the price of parking. Research shows that customers value the certainty of being able to park when and where they want to, and convenience is a quality for which most people are willing to pay. It also shows that while business owners believe that as cost increases, footfall decreases, in fact, the towns/cities with the highest footfall generally have higher than average parking charges. Furthermore, fair car park charges can help ensure that parking spaces frequently turn over, increasing overall footfall.

#### Join our new WhatsApp channel

In the spirit of keeping our finger on the pulse of changing social media channels, we have just set up a WhatsApp news channel. We are aware many people use WhatsApp and a number of organisations have started to promote their channel – such as the BBC, some football clubs.

We will use our new channel to promote our latest news and service changes - it will also be a useful way reach you quickly if there is an emergency or last-minute service change – for example, if it snows. Posts can be shared to other WhatsApp users and groups.

We are soft launching at the moment, but if you'd like to join our channel you can do so by following the link below on your mobile phone, or by scanning the QR code below.



## COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATE: FREDDIE VAN MIERLO

Chalgrove Airfield: Homes England have requested an Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Opinion, with SODC holding a consultation. An EIA is a required part of any new planning application. Homes England have also conducted traffic surveys in the local area. Residents have also been receiving invitations to attend information events by Homes England. However, there is no new planning application to date.

**New special schools**: The county council is planning two <u>new special schools</u> in the Didcot area to serve southeast Oxfordshire. One will specialise in educating children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) needs. Another special school is due to be built within the Valley Park development, and will specialise in educating children with Profound & Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD), Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and other needs.

**Taking on potholes:** OCC is launching a  $\pm 7m$  programme this spring to refurbish nearly 100 roads across the county this spring from 8 April to 3 June. It is the biggest surface dressing programme for 20 years. The  $\pm 7m$  is made up of  $\pm 2.6m$  from the Department for T ransport and additional budget for highways agreed in the 2024/2025 Lib Dem/Green budget (not supported by the Tories).

**Money for cycling and walking**: Oxfordshire has been awarded £2.384 million for improving walking and cycling infrastructure. The award will be used for expansion of the school streets programme countywide and projects in Abingdon and Witney

# Help us Spend it....



Over the next 2 years Little Milton will be donated over **£50,000** from the 4 new houses being built opposite the church. We want to hear your ideas of capital projects we should spend it on that would benefit the village.

Also come and hear about the results from the recent **traffic survey**, what's happening at the **Post office/Shop**, and other village news.

Little Milton Annual Parish Meeting at The Village Hall 12:00 on 4<sup>th</sup> May.

All residents welcome. Free Hot Dogs, tea and coffee.

Little Milton Parish Council

BENEF	<u>ICE SERVICES FOR MAY 2024</u>					
Sunday	Sunday 5th May					
9.00	Holy Communion	St James' Little Milton				
10.30	Family Worship Special rogation service will be Held at Field Farm OX9 2HQ (the Turning for Barr Builders on lhs Just past the Oxfordshire Golf Club					
Thursd	ay 9 <sup>th</sup> May – Ascension Day					
7.00 p.n	n. Holy Communion	St James' Little Milton				
	12th May					
	Holy Communion	St Mary's Great Milton				
10.30	Family Worship	St James' Little Milton				
9.00	<b>19th May</b> Holy Communion Family Worship	St Peter's Great Haseley St Mary's Great Milton				
Sunday	26th May					
	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's Great Milton				
10.30	Benefice Worship	St Peter's Great Haseley				
	<b>2nd June</b> Holy Communion Family Worship	St James' Little Milton St Peter's Great Haseley				
	JF					

DIMORG FOR M

I'd like to let you know that two of our churches are holding their APCM's in May. These Annual meetings are open to all members of the congregation, and anyone who lives in the villages, and are an opportunity to hear about the work of the PCC and the church in our community over the year. Please come along and have a chat, or ask questions, you'll be very welcome. Little Milton's APCM is on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 11.30 in St James', and Great Haseley's APCM will be at 12.00, following the Benefice Service in St Peter's on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May

## **GREAT MILTON METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES: MAY 2024** For further info. Please contact Rev. Stephen Spain on 01865 763676

Date	Time	Church	Preacher	Comment
5th May	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Local Arrangement	
12th May	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Gillian Dodds	
19th May	11.00 a.m	Great Milton	Anna Herriman	
26th May	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Rev Miriam Moul	Holy
				Communion

#### LENT LUNCHES

Thank you to each of those who hosted a Lent Lunch this year in aid of Christian Aid, but also in aid of having a good time together! The lunches were well attended and raised, in <u>no</u> particular order, £155, £190 and £235, i.e. respectively making a grand total of £580 for Christian Aid...WONDERFUL, thank you everyone!

A huge thankyou to the Manoir for, once again, providing our lunches with <u>delicious</u> Manoir rolls...

#### S. A. Dennis

#### CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR MAY

W/E 5th May	-	Mrs A Blagg & Mrs Cathy D'Aeth
W/E 12th May	_	Mrs M Davies & Mrs S A Dennis
W/E 19th May	_	Mrs L. Lovegrove & Mrs C Coward
W/E 26th May	_	Mrs A Jones & Mrs Sarah Holifield
W/E 2nd June	—	Mrs E. Summers & Mrs Wendy Newby

#### **CHURCH FLOWER ROTA FOR MAY**

W/E 5th May	-	Jane Willis
W/E 12th May	-	Jane Willis
W/E 19th May	-	Sally Ann Dennis
W/E 26th May	-	Sally Ann Dennis
W/E 2nd June	-	Sally Ann Dennis
	<b>T</b> 0	1 2 5 0 0 2 2

#### Teresa Quested 278922

#### RECTOR'S PINT

This is not intended to be a political comment, rather a reflection on the relationship between political and personal ambition and faith.

I struggled to believe what I was watching. It was Holy Week, and not only did Donald Trump compare himself to Jesus and His sacrifice on Good Friday, but he chose Holy week to endorse the 'God Bless America' bible, encouraging his supporters to pay \$59-99 for a copy. He claimed that no money would go to supporting his campaign to be reelected as President, but nothing excluded using it to fund his many legal issues, including his upcoming criminal trial in April. Liz Cheney, one of the few republicans who has the courage to stand up to him, posted the following on X (formerly known as Twitter) 'Happy Holy Week, Donald Trump, instead of selling Bibles, you should probably buy one. And read it, including Exodus 20:14.' Exodus 20:14 is the 7<sup>th</sup> commandment, 'You shall not commit adultery.'

The thing that astonishes me, is his solid and loyal support base among American evangelical Christians who are willing to overlook much because he promises to deliver what they want, which is a kind of Christian nationalism. I am really troubled by any religious movement that aligns itself solidly with any political movement, but it seems that is what is happening in the USA. It also appears that Donald Trump has been cynically using Christianity as he has presented himself as a kind of national Messiah. Jesus clearly warned; "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles?" (Matthew 7: 15-20). Personally, I think that rather resonates with the phenomena we are seeing in the USA.

I believe that Christianity must be a force for good in society. It is a faith which proclaims good news of forgiveness, hope, redemption and ultimate resurrection. It also declares the values by which we live our lives, values of justice and truth, mercy and kindness that we see embodied in Jesus. There are plenty of politicians of course who practice a religious faith, and I believe that potentially that can be for the good. In our own context I also believe that we can be people of faith whilst holding diverse political views. I know that to be true for instance in our village churches, we don't all agree politically, but we don't let that get in the way of our relationships, faith transcends politicians of all political persuasions meet to pray, I suppose that politicians of other faiths will also seek to find common ground. Faith should unite, not divide, it is not something to be weaponised for political, personal or financial advantage. When that happens things tend to go horribly wrong

#### Simon

#### FRIENDS OF LITTLE MILTON SCHOOL- 200 CLUB April

1st	No;	10	Sally Ann Dennis	£10.00
2nd	No;	17	Emma Hockley	£8.00
3rd	No;	33	Jan Hockley	£6.00

Diane Austin (Organiser)



The biennial Dorchester-on-Thames Festival is one of Oxfordshire's leading Festivals and is based in and around the stunning location of Dorchester Abbey. The Dorchester Festival takes place this Spring,  $3rd - 12^{th}$  May, with an amazing collection of over 50 events packed into just 10 days at Dorchester Abbey.

Since 2005 the Festival has regularly attracted over 3,000 people each year, from serious followers of the arts to schools, families and children of all ages and has raised significant profile and £250,000 for Dorchester Abbey and local charities.

In 2024 we are partnering with wonderful local charity Restore, who support individuals to live with increased freedom from the constraints of mental ill health, through therapeutic activity, coaching and learning.

Highlights in 2024 include the return of world class classical group The Tallis Scholars, the BBC Elstree Concert Band, the now legendary abseil down the abbey's 100ft tower, cookerv workshops by top chefs, comedy, folk and jazz nights, a gift and food fair, and even a duck race. Restore will be adding its own activities focused on mental health and well-being.

https://dorchesterfestival.com

# Spring Fling Jazz evening

Get ready to swing with the Carpathians 16 piece Big Band

> Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May Little Milton Village Hall Doors open 7:30 pm

f16 per person inc. smoked Beef brisket roll.

Tickets at the village Shop or online on Little Milton Village hall website https://imvh.org.uk/

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE PINE LODGE

There is still time to get your tickets for the **"Spring Fling"**. We have booked an outstanding 16 piece Jazz Band for **Friday** evening **3rd May** with doors opening at 7:30pm. Tickets are £16 and include a smoked beef brisket roll. They are on sale in the village Shop and online on our new website <u>https://lmvh.org.uk/page/news</u> For a sneak preview to the music try - <u>https://www.thecarpathians.co.uk/events</u>

Please pop along to the VILLAGE RESIDENTS (ANNUAL PARISH MEETING) MEETING on Saturday 4th May at the Hall at 12:00. We want your feedback and ideas on how the grant money from the current new housing site opposite the church should be spent. Also catch up with what's happening with the Post Office/Shop, the school, etc.

Regular activities in the Hall include:Mondays at 10.30 am Yoga & Fitness with Yvonne(y.cartwright@btinternet.com)Tuesdays at 9:30 am, and Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. Keep Fit on with Alyce(alycefwf@gmail.com)Tuesday 6:00 pm Dance school (megan\_ah@hotmail.com)Wednesday 9:30 am Advanced Textile on workshop with Amargeet(amarjeetnandhra@virginmedia.com)Friday 9:30 am Fitness with Focus (mobility and stretching) on with Alyce(alycefwf@gmail.com)WI 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. contact KathStacy kathstacey@yahoo.co.ukCrafts 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. contact KathStacy kathstacey@yahoo.co.ukLittle City 08:30 - 13:30 once a month on a Thursday (rosie@littlecityuk.com)

Parish Council 2nd Wednesday 7:30 p.m. For further details contact <u>clerk@littlemilton.org.uk</u> Village Hall committee 2nd Monday 7:30 p.m. For further deta

Village Hall committee 2nd Monday 7:30 p.m. For further details contact giles.pinelodge@gmail.com

For details of, news, booking info and the online events calendar please view the Pine Lodge webpage at <u>https://lmvh.org.uk/</u>, or contact *Linda Lovegrove* <u>linda.pinelodge@yahoo.com</u>

## FRIENDS OF WELLS FARM

May brings a bounty of activity in our countryside. Some of the early butterflies were already appearing in early April and these are the first wave, laying eggs for the second wave later in the summer. This is the same for bumblebees with the early queens appearing in the Spring and the main population including the busy worker bees from May onwards. Did you know that there are species of bees called "Cuckoo bees"? These follow normal bumblebee queens down into their nest and take over the nest for their own offspring. The Cuckoo bees are much more heavily armoured and do not have a pollen sack on their legs.

This month we will see a dramatic increase in the number of sheep on site in preparation for the day of shearing. The timing of this will depend on the weather as any cold rainy snap will make the sheep cold and vulnerable after their coats have been removed. During this time it is especially important to keep dogs on a lead through any field with livestock in. It is a criminal offence to have your dog worry livestock and sheep are particularly prone to "worry" and this can lead to deaths if chased by dogs.

I have also noticed a few dog poo bags thrown into hedgerows, left on paths and in fields. If an animal accidentally consumes it they could die. We do have some very helpful people around our village who litter pick, also covering Wells Farm. We are very grateful for all that they do to keep our village clean and tidy.

Recent work parties have focused on hedges and clearance. Future jobs to do include removing old tree guards, keeping the gates clear, pruning back any brambles and repairing stiles. If you would like to join the next one it will be on Sunday May 5th from 10am -1pm starting at the barn. See signs by the barn and around the reserve for further details

## Paul Jeffery - Reserves Warden (paulj201@hotmail.com)

## TONS TOGETHER (LITTLE MILTON) WI

In April we started our new 2024/25 programme with a Block Printing workshop with Karen Fido. We did a lot of stamping, making cards, wrapping paper, present and tote bags. Very therapeutic!

On Thursday 9 May we have a village favourite, Carol Turner, talking to us about her travels to The Hindu Kush & Northern Pakistan.

Everyone welcome, men too! Visitors £5, or join up for £48 (2024-25).

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

## We meet every 2nd Thursday of the month in the Pine Lodge OX44 7PZ at 7.30pm

Too shy to come by yourself or need a lift? Contact us & we'll find you a WI buddy.

Like us at <u>www.facebook.com/Impinelodge</u> Pine Lodge website: www.Imvh.org.uk Kath Stacey 01844-279438 <u>tonstogetherwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk</u>

## DATE OF NEXT SEWING GROUP

This month we are meeting on Wednesday 22nd May from 11.00 a.m. onwards. The venue is at Sarah McLean Milton Manor Drive. Please telephone Sally Ann on 01844 278029 if you would like to come along and join us. We'd love to see anyone new, especially if you have just moved into the village and want to meet a few locals

## Sally Ann Dennis

**Great Milton School Spring Fair**, **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May**, 12pm-3pm Kids' activities, BBQ, stalls, and fun!

## NEWS FROM LITTLE MILTON SCHOOL

Small School, Big Heart, Great Start

The children have returned following the Easter break with even more enthusiasm for their learning and it's been a fantastic pleasure popping into all the classrooms and seeing the children so engaged with their learning.

How did we get to Summer Term already? It is such a delight to once again enjoy the lighter evenings and the increased opportunities to get outside.

The first event to note this term is our wonderful 2024 Readathon. To celebrate our shared love of reading, we will be challenging every child at Little Milton School to read every day until the final day of term (23rd May). The aim of our readathon, as well as encouraging the children to read lots, is to travel across the world together stopping off at nine countries along the way. The more the children read, the more air miles they will be awarded in a special passport, and the closer we get to another country. What happens when we arrive? Well, we are welcomed with food, a cultural artefact and a fact sheet from that country. As well as gathering air miles we are also encouraging children to ask friends and family to sponsor them on their journey around the world. The sponsorship money raised will go towards the purchase of new books for our school. We are extremely grateful to all the parents who have volunteered their time to make this a success.

We also have our Maypole afternoon, a traditional village event, to look forward to on Friday June 7th, so we will be dusting off the maypole and beginning our rehearsals. We certainly punch above our weight when it comes to maypole dancing! Further information will be available a little nearer the time. Let's hope the weather is an improvement on last year's.

We wish our wonderful Y6 children the best of luck during the final few weeks of their preparation for 'Cake week', or 'SATs week' as other schools refer to it.

## Hannah and James Co-Headteacher <u>WELLS FARM ALLOTMENTS</u>

April has been tough for growing, with so much rain water logging plots that are mainly clay and the winds damaging young plants. The greenhouse on site can be used by anybody if they need a place to put seedlings. Tomato plants could be planted on the right hand side (first come first serve basis). May is a very busy time as everything is growing like mad, especially the weeds but a little persistence can keep them at bay. Now is a good time to plant beans or plant them out if you have started them in pots. Look out for late frosts that can also damage the tops of potatoes. Get your squashes going and plant out later in the month. Please keep the grass around your plots mown and clear for access. There is a bit of rubbish about the site. I have started to collect this up and aim to remove it. Please do not dump rubbish other than organic matter about the site as it restricts the use of machinery to keep the outer parts of the site clear. There is now a WhatsApp group for sharing information in a more informal way amongst you. Maybe it would be worth having a BBQ at some point. Ideas on when would be welcome. We do have the home made barrel BBQ we can use.

There are a couple of plots available (different sizes) if anybody wants to join, or even out their name down for next year. Just contact me.

Paul. (paulj201@hotmail.com

#### VIEW FROM VIEWS

Is there any more water up there? I cannot believe this wet weather could continue for this long where is it all coming from surely the sky must soon run out. There are a pair of Swans who habitually nest in this area, who had settled on a site where they have nested for several years had started to make their nest the riverbank, when the floods first receded in whenever it was, the next time they receded they chose another spot, then again were seen in a different position, I think the poor devils don't know where to go. Most other wildlife seems to have come through the winter well and are madly making nests, I don't think the weather has had much effect on them. I am happy to report that we still have an abundance of Sky Larks Hares and I think pairs of Grey Partridge. It seems now that spring is really springing as the birds are in good voice at daybreak, and it gives us some confidence that perhaps we might get a summer.

Swans are not the only ones to be changing their plans as the weather continues to play tricks on us. Our latest plans for our cropping are to forget the area of Barley that has been drowned out and plant a cover crop, to maintain a green cover and perhaps help improve the soil structure, one that we can cut off just before harvest. This is because by the time these fields were, or will be, dry enough it is too late for a crop of barley. In an adjacent field where it was exceptionally wet and the Barley is non-existent leave this as a conservation area instead of a drier field destined for conservation area as it can be planted into our first foray into Poppies, that can be planted at this late stage. Where the Rape failed, we are going to plant  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  lupines & Poppies both for seed. As both these crops do not need to be in the ground so early as cereals so that reduces the risk in late planting which really is too late for cereals. Just to illustrate how our best laid plans get altered by the weather Over the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> April we got land ready to plant on the Monday when it poured with rain so then had to leave the land to dry out again. I fear for some farmers especially tenants who, have not been able to diversify or sell a plot of land for development, without which many would not exist today. These such Farmers will really struggle with only having  $\frac{1}{2}$  a crop at most to live off, the result may well be many who will be forced to leave the industry.

With all these weather-related pressures on us, it seems very hard that our customers (Retailers) are not prepared to help us when, whatever happens, they have their profit margin whatever the weather. As I have mentioned above without support, we will not be producing so much of the food we need, especially in the view of the worldwide political situation, when food security is so important our government do not seem to be concerned with this situation. We can just only hope that we don't starve. They seem only too happy to throw money at environmental schemes, although this year they have said that they will only support an area of up to 25% of land that could grow food crops on. I think this is probably because they are frightened that this year we will be claiming on all this land that is waterlogged, if so they would then run out of money.

The government have just announced a package, "Flood Recovery Scheme" to help Farmers who have suffered from Flooding I doubt we will get any compensation as it is for flooding that resulted from storm Henck, as we had flooding well before Henck was even thought about. There is a Farmer in Lincolnshire who has had over 1,000 acres underwater most of the winter, very much like us, when it was announced 9<sup>th</sup> April, says he will not be eligible as he is nowhere near a river, which doesn't not seem fair. So sometimes government announcements are not what they are made out to be.

Sadly, we have all been made aware of the fact that the Chalgrove Airfield development plan is still being kept alive. There were a series of meetings about this development. It seems "Homes England" (HE) are oblivious to the fact that SODC have removed the site from their local plan and list of potential sites for development. In spite of the fact that, recent analysis, has shown we don't need the projected number of houses in Oxfordshire. I think HE are concerned that as a government body they have made a mistake. Further to my comments last month re infrastructure, the "Environment Agency" (EA) have said the Barton Brook (North of Oxford/Barton) development should be refused, as the Oxford Sewage works is at capacity. It is about time the EA started to put its foot down, should have been done years ago, fancy warning the boat racers not to enter the Thames.

Please don't forget later in the month the "Chiltern Vintage Tractor run", 19<sup>th</sup> May in aid of the "Air Ambulance", and this year we are fielding 4 tractors between us. I hope by the time this is read there will be sponsor ship form in the Bull Gt Milton and the Post offices in Gt & LT Milton, I ask as many who can to give generously, either directly or, for this most worthy of charities, via my "Just Giving" page;-

"www.justgiving.com/fundraising/charles-peers5

#### **Charles** Peers





## Walks Programme 2024 MAY

- Thursday 2nd Meet at the church, Cholsey, for an undulating 8½ mile walk with good views. Bring a picnic.
  Thursday 9th Meet at Fingest for a 7½ mile undulating walk via Little Frieth and Turville.
  Sunday 12th Meet in Stokenchurch for a 6½ mile walk through the Wormsley estate and Ibstone.
  Tuesday 14th Meet at Haddenhom Carden Cantee for a laisurely gentle.
- Tuesday 14thMeet at Haddenham Garden Centre for a leisurely, gentle<br/>social 2½ mile walk around the new and old of Haddenham.<br/>Café options enroute and at the end.
- Tuesday 21stMeet at the Studley Green Garden Centre for a 5½ mile walk<br/>up and around Radnage.
- Sunday 26th Meet at Wendover (car park behind library) for a leisurely stile-free 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mile walk passing the highest point in the Chilterns. Joint walk with the Chiltern Conservation Board.
- Tuesday 28th 6pm Meet at Wheatley, car park off Church Road, for a railway themed 5 mile walk. Possible pub stop at end of walk. Note start time!

All walks start at 10am unless otherwise stated. Please check the website to confirm details as programme subject to change: <u>www.ramblers-oxon.org.uk/thame-wheatley/walking.html</u>

## or phone 01844 213608

## Leaders' contact details and suitability of walks for dogs can also be found on the website.

The Ramblers' Association is a registered charity (England & Wales no 1093577, Scotland no SC039799) and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales (no 4458492). Registered office: c/o Bates Wells, 10 Queen Street Place, London EC4R 1BE.

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Enhanced access hours are offered outside these times, please speak to one of the reception team on 01865 872448 for more information.

When the surgery is closed, please contact the Out of Hours service by phoning 111

Patients aged 75 or over (or will turn 75 by 30 June 2024) are being invited for a COVID booster vaccination. Also, appointments can be booked online at <u>https://www.nhs.uk/get-vaccination</u> or on the NHS App. You can find your nearest COVID-19 vaccination walk-in site at <u>https://www.nhs.uk/covid-walk-in</u>. **30 June 2024 is** last date to get a booster vaccination.

The NHS launched the **Pharmacy First Service (PFS)** on 31<sup>st</sup> January (see <u>NHS</u> <u>Pharmacy First Service (PFS) | NHSBSA )</u> Appointments can be booked directly with participating pharmacies for the treatment of 7 common health conditions namely sinusitis, sore throat, earache, infected insect bite, impetigo, shingles, uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women.

Pharmacists can offer advice to patients and supply NHS medicines where clinically appropriate. This will help reduce the pressure on Morland House Surgery. As an example, appointments with Wheatley Pharmacy can be booked (often the same day) by phoning 01865 874047 or via the website www.wheatleypharmacy.com/book

**Group Consultation Clinics** – We are excited to offer group clinics for certain health conditions, currently menopause and diabetes. The benefits are many including a more thorough examination of your condition, having your questions answered, sharing issues with others going through the same issues, and spending longer with a GP. For a wealth of information and guidance on managing a vast number of health conditions, symptoms, and treatment, please visit <u>www.morland-house.co.uk</u>

Also on the website are details of the new rules relating to accessing your medical records - see <u>https://tinyurl.com/3879mz6p</u>



## John Howell MP writes

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

The quality of our water courses is something that I know concerns many constituents. It concerns me too. This is why I recently joined with my local colleagues to write to the Chief Executive of Thames Water to seek more action to tackle the sewage pollution in our waterways across Oxfordshire. We appreciate that Thames Water have confirmed an additional investment of at least £815 million to help tackle sewage pollution and cut sewage overflows by 84% by 2050. However we feel that this time frame is too long, and we would like to see more investment and thus quicker results. We have asked to meet to discuss this further. Alongside this I am pleased at the recent Government announcement of a tough new inspections and enforcement regime, increasing their oversight of water companies with the Environment Agency carrying out inspections.

On a completely different subject, anyone who has ever got caught up in expensive legal proceedings may appreciate that Alternative Dispute Resolutions can be helpful. This area of resolving disputes is something with which I have been involved and is a growing area. In 2021 I introduced a Private Members Bill to Parliament to allow an apology to be given that is genuinely and sincerely meant without creating a legal liability. This bill did not complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the 2019-21 session, but the Lord Chancellor confirmed the Government would consult on the issue when Parliamentary time allowed. I was therefore delighted to receive a recent letter from the Lord Chancellor to let me know that he was launching a consultation that could see the essence of my Bill become law.

Another area that has generate contact from constituents of late is around the increase in the use of vapes by young people. I have been advised that the number of children using vapes has tripled in the past three years, with 20.5% of children having tried vaping in 2023. While the use of vapes is not risk-free, they have been useful as a means to help adults stop smoking. However the increase in use by young people is worrying. The Government is seeking to address this through the Tobacco and Vapes Bill which would prohibit the sale of vapes to young people. The Bill is currently going through parliamentary process. I do appreciate that some adults who are smokers are content to be so but there are many who seek to quit especially given the known health risks. The Government's Swap to Stop Scheme is helping people give up and the Bill seeks to ensure that this is not an issue for younger generations.

As always I am interested to know the issues that concern constituents. The best way to contact me is via email: <u>john.howell.mp@parliament.uk</u>. You can find updates and replies to standard campaigns run by lobby organisations on my website: https://www.johnhowell.org.uk

Printed and promoted by John Howell MP House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Please note that unless articles are in the hands of the Editor by the 18th of the month (unless otherwise stated), such articles will miss the scheduled Newsletter. The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Parish Council.

All material for inclusion in the **May 2024** Newsletter should be with the Editor at 27 Chiltern View, Little Milton, by 8.00 p.m. on **18th April.** The Editor reserves the right not to print items submitted for publication and to edit those items, which are published



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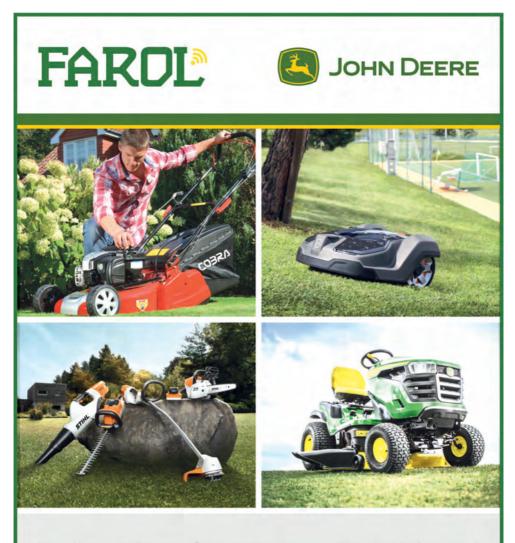
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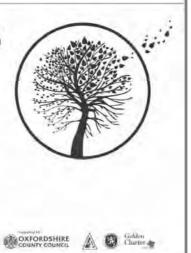
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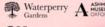
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