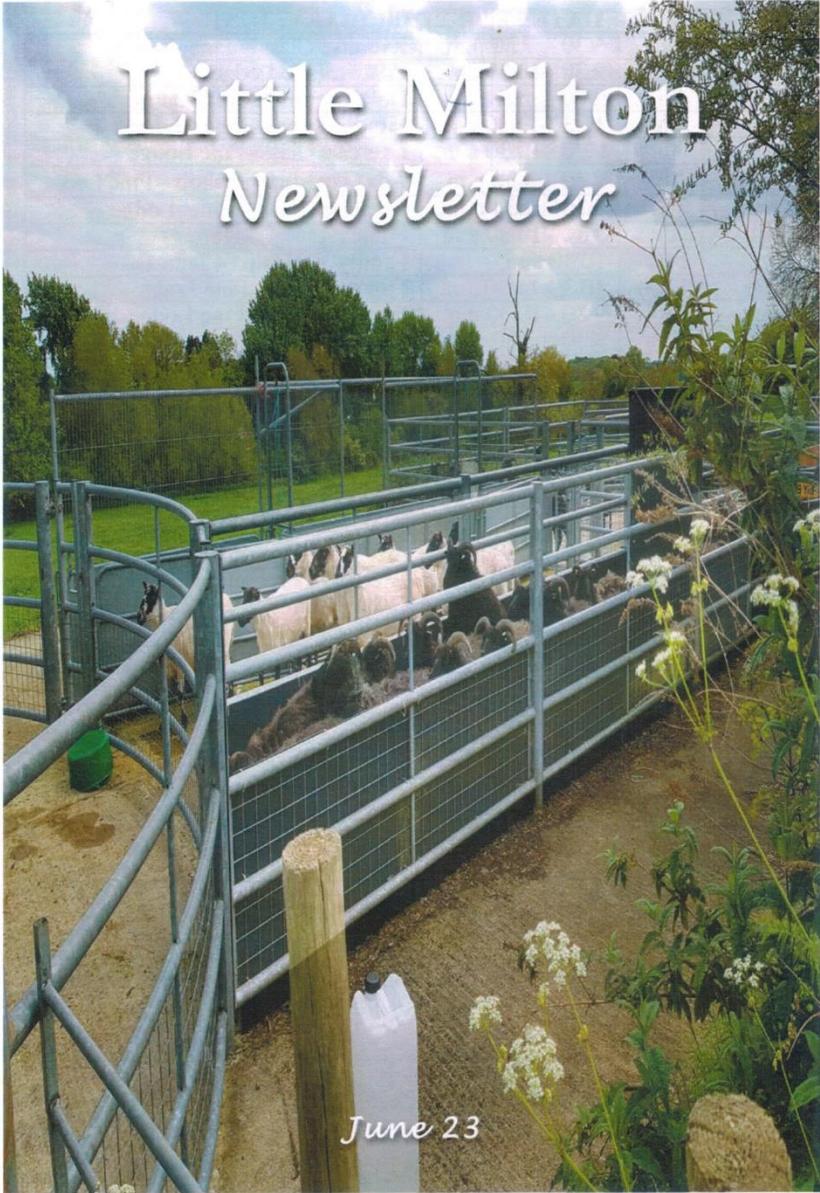


# Little Milton *Newsletter*



*June 23*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: JUNE

Thurs	1st	6.30 – 7.30 p.m.	Exercise Class – Pine :Lodge
Frid	2nd	9.30 –10.30 a.m.	Pilates: Pine Lodge
Sun	4th	9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion: St James’
Mon.	5th	10.30-11.30a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge
Tues.	6th	9.30– 10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge
Wed	7th	9.30 – 3.30 p.m.	Adv. Textile workshop – Pine Lodge
Thurs	8th	6.30 – 7.30 p.m.	Exercise Class – Pine :Lodge
Frid.	9th	9.30 –10.30 a.m.	Pilates: Pine Lodge
Sun	11th	10.30 a.m.	Family Worship St James’
Mon	12th	10.30-11.30a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge
Tues	13th	9.30– 10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge
Wed	14th	9.30 – 3.30 p.m.	Adv. Textile workshop – Pine Lodge
Thurs	15th	6.30 – 7.30 p.m. 7.30 p.m.	Exercise Class – Pine :Lodge WI Meeting Pine Lodge
Frid	16th	9.30 – 10.30 a.m.	Pilates: Pine Lodge
Sat	17th	2.00 – 4.30 p.m.	Fete at The Old Rectory
Mon	19th	10.30-11.30a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge
Tues	20th	9.30– 10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge
Wed	21st	9.30 – 3.30 p.m.	Adv. Textile workshop – Pine Lodge
Thurs	22nd	6.30 – 7.30 p.m. 7.00 p.m.	Exercise Class – Pine :Lodge Craft Evening – Pine Lodge
Frid	23rd	9.30 –10.30 a.m.	Pilates: Pine Lodge
Sat	24th	12.00 p.m.	Tug of War – Recreation Ground
Sun	25th	9.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	BCP Communion – St Mary’s Benefice Service- St Peter’s
Mon	26th	10.30-11.30a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge
Tues	27th	9.30– 10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge
Wed	28th	9.30 – 3.30 p.m. 11.00 a.m.	Adv. Textile workshop – Pine Lodge Sewing Group – 38 Chiltern View
Thurs	29th	6.30 – 7.30 p.m.	Exercise Class – Pine Lodge
Frid	30th	9.30 – 10..a.m.	Pilates – Pine Lodge
<b>JULY</b>			
Sun	2nd	9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion St James’

**PLEASE NOTE** 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 MEETINGS HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th MAY 2023**

Below is a summary of some of the topics and discussions which took place at the Parish Council meeting held in May, including the Annual Meeting of the Council

### **Annual Meeting of the Council**

Being the first meeting since the May elections Members of the newly formed Parish Council each duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance Office as a Parish Councillor in the presence of the Clerk and those present.

Cllr Francois van der Merwe was duly elected as Chairman for the year. The election of a Vice Chairman was deferred to future meeting.

Cllr Edward Horwell was welcomed to his first meeting as a parish councillor following the elections.

Councillor Responsibilities agreed as follows:

Cllr Wakeling - Play area and planning

Cllr Harrison – Recreation ground and open green spaces

Cllr Horwell - Communications

Cllr Denby – Liaison with Village hall, village shop, Orchard Nursery, Little Milton School, St James' Church

Cllr Sheppard - Utilities / highways

### **Parish Council Meeting**

#### **Matters Arising**

It was agreed that the Clerk contact local parishes who have recently installed Speed Indicator Device Signs (SIDs). Cllr Sheppard will contact Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) Highways for advice on purchasing and installing SIDs.

Discussion took place on the Council's priorities over the next four years. It was agreed to continue to focus on HGV traffic through the village and the refurbishment of the MUGA. This is not an exhaustive list and councillors were encouraged to give thought to further projects.

#### **Planning**

P23/S0554/LB – Spring & Well Cottage, Haseley Road, Little Milton, OX44 7PP

Installation of full fibre by BT

**Resolved** to Fully Support the application.

#### **Land at Warren Farm Barn**

The owner of the above land has submitted a Highways Declaration (Ref: 2068) which prevents unrecorded public rights of way from being legally recorded based on presumed dedication in the future. Cllr Wakeling had contacted the Ramblers Association and circulated their response. All agreed a phased approach as follows:

- Identify pieces of the footpath that are missing from the Definitive Map.
- Gather evidence the paths have been used for over 30 years. Declarations from users (item in newsletter, personal contact, social media)
- Cllr Horwell to contact Lucy Ireland, local Footpath Warden.

#### **Village AEDs**

The Signage Assessment Report for the village AEDs was noted. The survey and report have been undertaken in response to South Central Ambulance Service's 2022 report.

Thanks was expressed to the volunteers who regularly check the village and manage the servicing of the village AEDs.

**Resolved** to approve the recommendations within the report.

### **Reports from Councillor Representatives**

#### Recreation Ground / Open Green Spaces

Verges within the 20mph limit are due to be cut at the end of May. Two bags of stone chippings have been spread along the edge of the Gold Street slip road to minimise muddy conditions. This action was approved by OCC Highways.

Planters have been replanted with new plants by Carol Turner who has offered to maintain the planters on behalf of the Council. A new single slab has been placed inside the pedestrian gateway to the recreation ground. Further slabs have been placed in front of the gate to the play area.

The owner of the pathway alongside the church has given permission for the Council to lay bark chippings along the pathway. **Resolved** to purchase a tonne bag of bark chippings.

#### Utilities and Highways

Orders for pothole repairs have been raised on Fix My Street but OCC has a backlog of work.

#### Playground

Following a report of bees nesting, the play area has been checked but no evidence found. It is proposed to replace the small bin in the MUGA, which fills up quickly and is not easy to empty, with one of the blue bins originally located at the entrance of the play area.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 14th June 2023**, in Pine Lodge, commencing at 7.30pm. This meeting has been delayed due to the election on 4<sup>th</sup> May and the necessary notice period required by Statute

Please visit the Parish Council website to read full minutes of Parish Council meetings.

*Andrea Oughton Parish Clerk*

### **Current Council members**

Councillor Francois Van Der Merwe (Chairman)	07740438770
Councillor Howard Harrison	01844 279946
Councillor Adam Sheppard	01844 279217
Councillor Ed Horward	tbc
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	<a href="mailto:georgina.heritage@southoxon.gov.uk">georgina.heritage@southoxon.gov.uk</a>

### **SODC: WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT**

The minimum charge is £4 for up to 3 items and £9 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 [www.southoxon.gov.uk](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk)

### **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 [visit the Emmaus website](#) for more details.

### **BIFFA: WASTE COLLECTION DATES – JUNE**

	<b>Brown</b>	<b>Grey</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Food</b>
6th June	No	Yes	No	Yes
13th June	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
20th June	No	Yes	No	Yes
27th June	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
4th July	Nos	Yes	No	Yes

### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

**Councillor priority fund:** Applications to the councillor priority fund have reopened. The application process has slightly changed, requiring an online application and an email/letter of support of the councillor. Eligible organisations include, registered charities, not for profit companies, community or voluntary groups, and parish councils/meetings. Grants cannot be made to individuals, profit making organisations and private limited companies. Projects seeking funding must be deliverable by March 2025.

**Electric Vehicle Chargers:** OCC is set to receive £3.6 million to rollout EV charging points across the county. The priority will be to provide charging points in rural areas and where off-street home charging is not possible. Community organisations (e.g., parishes, village halls) may be able to take ownership of the charging points to provide them as a community asset and deliver a revenue stream. Further details will follow.

**Air Quality Strategy:** An OCC air quality strategy (long term) and ‘route map’ (short term) has been developed. While monitoring of air quality is a district responsibility, the Environment Act 2021 places a responsibility on the County Council to support districts and reduce air pollution. An information campaign will follow, which will include information on indoor pollution and log burning fires.

**Social care:** OCC runs a ‘shared lives’ carer scheme whereby approved Oxfordshire residents, with space in their own home, care for a person with learning difficulties, mental health problems or other needs that make independent living difficult. Carers can offer to provide one-off respite care, or longer-term care and everything in between. The scheme has been running successfully since 2020. More information for anyone interested can be found [here](#). A scheme to match older residents with a spare room with younger people looking for alternative accommodation called [Homeshare](#) also runs as

a way to provide older people with additional support / company. Both schemes are examples of the ‘Oxfordshire Way’ to allow people to live independently in their communities.

**Verge cutting and ‘no mow May’:** Oxfordshire County Council is again supporting ‘no mow May’ and encouraging participation. Due to the amount of verge cutting required, OCC has an updated maintenance schedule to prioritise biodiversity. However, OCC is not able to put away its mowers for a full month and still meet its schedule of work, meaning some areas will be cut in May. Verges that need to be cut to maintain public safety will be cut back multiple times if necessary.

**Household waste strategy:** Consultation closed on HWRC strategy 2023-2043. The strategy replaces the 2015 Conservative HWRC strategy which aimed to close local sites and deliver 3 or 4 super sites. The new strategy aims to retain the current 7 sites. The strategy encourages re-use and repair, rather than disposal in the first instance.

**Hydrogen powered fire engines:** Oxfordshire is taking part in a pioneering project to develop hydrogen powered fire engines

**Sustainable Warmth Grants:** Funding for residents without mains gas, and household incomes of less than £30,000 (or in receipt of means-tested benefits) is still available.

**Grants for care workers:** Cost of living grants remain available for care workers.

### **BENEFICE SERVICES FOR JUNE 2023**

#### **Sunday 4th June**

9.00	Holy Communion	St James’ Little Milton
10.30	Rogation Service	Susanne & Colin Quartly’s Farm (Field Farm)

#### **Sunday 11th June**

9.00	Holy Communion	St Peter’s Great Haseley
10.30	Family Worship	St James’ Little Milton

#### **Sunday 18th June**

9.00	Holy Communion	St Peter’s Great Haseley
10.30	Family Worship	St Mary’s Great Milton

#### **Sunday 25th June**

9.00	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary’s Great Milton
10.30	Benefice Service (Non- Communion)	St Peter’s Great Haseley

#### **Sunday 2nd July**

9.00	Holy Communion	St James Little Milton
10.30	Family Worship	St Peter’s Great Haseley

### **GREAT MILTON METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES: JUNE 2023**

**For further info. Please contact Rev. Stephen Spain on 01865 763676**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Comment</b>
4th June	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Alistair Jackson	
11th June	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Local Arrangement	
18th June	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Revd. .Jean King	
25th June	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Local Arrangement	

## **RECTOR'S PINT**

I have mentioned the theme of 'ordinary' time before, in 2018 and then very briefly only two years ago, but I believe it's worth revisiting.

The Church's major festivals are not spread regularly throughout the year, but in a way that's a good thing. Following Christmas, there is a gallop through Epiphany to Lent, and then on to Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter, the heartland of the Christian year. Then follow Ascension and Pentecost, but after that we enter 'Ordinary time' in the Church's year, the two parts of the year that fall outside the great seasons of Advent and Lent. The second period of Ordinary time begins after Pentecost (this year on 28 May) and ends with the first Sunday of Advent, so it is by far the longest season of the Christian year.

Of course, plenty of things do happen during this time. We are entering the wedding season, and we have quite a few in the Benefice this year. In June there will be two church and village fetes, one in Great Milton, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June, and the other in Little Milton on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June.

The inter-village tug of war on 24<sup>th</sup> June, and this year it's in Little Milton. It's always a lively event, and the prize is hotly contested! The Open Gardens Day in Great Haseley was hugely popular last year, and will return on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July. Sadly, I will miss both of these as I had already booked my summer break before the dates were decided. In the autumn, we will celebrate our Harvest Festivals and Remembrance Sunday, and although these are not 'official' festivals of the Church they are much loved features of the calendar for many of us.

Whilst the great Festivals are a tremendous focus, for a minister like me, Ordinary time is a bit of a relief! There is plenty to do of course, but there is a break from the big 'extras' alongside the day-to-day responsibilities. As I have reflected before, although the word 'ordinary' actually stems from the Latin *ordinalis*, from which we get the word 'order', 'ordinary' can also be understood as 'everyday,' those times when nothing big or significant happens. Although the big festivals which fill our churches are really uplifting, it is perhaps in this 'ordinary' or day-to-day life when we see God most at work in our lives. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops puts it in rather more colourful terms: 'Ordinary time is a time of growth and maturation, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are caught up in Christ'.

Either way, it is, in fact, an important season, albeit more a paced spiritual marathon, rather than a hasty sprint!

I wish you God's blessing, however 'ordinary' that might seem.

**Simon**

## **CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR JUNE**

W/E 4th June	–	Mrs L. Lovegrove & Mrs C Coward
W/E 11th June	–	Mrs A Jones & Mrs Sarah Holifield
W/E 18th June	–	Mrs E. Summers & Mrs Wendy Newby
W/E 25th June	–	Mrs A Blagg & Mrs C D'Aeth
W/E 2nd July	–	Mrs M Davies & Mrs S A Dennis

*Sally Ann Dennis*

## **CHURCH FLOWER ROTA FOR JUNE**

W/E 4 <sup>th</sup> June	-	T Quested
W/E 11 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Cathy Hughes D’Aeth
W/E 18 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Cathy Hughes D’Aeth
W/E 25 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Jane Willis
W/E 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	-	Jane Willis

## **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2023**

Thank you to everyone who distributed and/or collected the red envelopes this year but above all to each one of you who gave money...The Grand Totals will be printed in the July Newsletter.

Sally Ann Dennis

## **MEMORIES OF PHYLISS WHITE**

Phyllis moved to Little Milton in 1965. We moved in next door in 1980 but it wasn’t until I heard her eulogy that I realised how much Phyllis had contributed to the village.

Phyllis was associated with the “Old Village Hall” for 20 years taking the bookings and cleaning, along with our other neighbour and friend Pauline Holt, until it was replaced by the Pine Lodge. She was a member of the village WI for 14 years and did the teas along with her friend Mabel Wood at the village fetes as well as the “Rofford Teas” to raise funds for the village church.

She enjoyed many holidays with Mabel on their coach tours and enjoyed telling Jim and I of their adventures over the garden fence.

Phyllis was a quite person but was always there as a good neighbour. We enjoyed our conversations over a cup of tea with her and Gilbert where Phyllis openly discussed her illness. We will miss her as a neighbour and friend.

**Linda & Jim Lovegrove**

## **WHERE ARE THE VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATORS?**

The Parish Council took a decision a few years ago to support the availability of defibrillators in the village and we have three in the village.

**Do you know where they are located?** It could mean the difference between surviving a cardiac arrest or not

**PINE LODGE:** Located to the right of the entrance door

**LITTLE MILTON SCHOOL:** As you approach the entrance to the school officer

**MORGAN ASSOCIATES:** On side wall next to the garage

**If you are unfamiliar with location of the defibrillators then please have a walk around, it may be the most important walk of your life**



# LITTLE MILTON CHURCH FETE

At The Old Vicarage, Church Hill

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June**  
**2 - 430pm**

Thame Concert Band,  
Cakes, Plants, Tombola, Toys,  
Family sports with Alyce,  
Bric-a-Brac, Books, Vintage  
Cars, Raffle, BBQ, Café, Pimms  
and much more...

More info: Pine Lodge page at [www.littlemilton.org.uk](http://www.littlemilton.org.uk)  
Like us at [www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge](https://www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge)

## THE 2023 CHURCH FETE - SATURDAY JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup> 2PM



We are looking forward to welcoming everyone to this year's fete on Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup>. Once again, we will be kindly hosted by Joyce and George Inge at The Old Vicarage (OX447QB).

There will be a plant stall, Thame Concert Band, the popular Pimm's tent, a cake stall, the Tombola, Bottle Tombola and a soft Toy Tombola, a BBQ, Vintage Cars, Books and DVD's, children's craft and sport activities, Bric-a-Brac, Poppet Ponies, the raffle, and lots more.

**If you would like to get involved in helping on the day, we are always keen to welcome new volunteers**, especially with setting up and clearing down the stalls etc.

### **WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS FOR THE STALLS PLEASE....**

We need plenty of donations to make sure all the stalls are well stocked. If you can help with any of the following, please get in touch or bring your donations on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> or the morning of Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> to the Old Vicarage.

**(Bric-a-brac** is best delivered to the garages at the Old Vicarage on Friday 16<sup>th</sup>)

Volunteers for helping on stalls	Teresa Quested	01844 278922 or 07927 716674
Donations for the plant stall	Jo Gaillard	07584 905905
Donations for the general Tombola	Sally Ann Dennis	01844 278029
Donations for the Bottle Tombola	Lucy Ireland	07725 790268
Donations for the Cake Stall	Jane Willis	07795 203842 or 01844 279468
Donations for the toy tom bola	Kath Stacey	07866 108110

If you need further information, please call Lindsay Heath on 07967 452817.

## **FETE SET UP HELP AND PARKING**

This year's village fete is on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June. It cannot run smoothly without all the help of the villagers, especially setting things up in the morning and helping out for half an hour with the parking. If you can spare some time to help put up gazebos, set up tables and help move some of the stall items it would be really appreciated. Just turn up at the Vicarage where we normally hold the fete at around 9am via the main gate and look for me. If you can help with parking in the afternoon, just ask one of those doing the parking and they will appreciate your support. Many thanks

*Paul Jeffery*

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE PINE LODGE**

Inter village Tug of War Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, starts at 12:00 on the Little Milton Recreation ground. There will be multiple villages competing, each with 3 teams (men's, women's, children), plus teams from Le Manoir. As the defending Men's and Women's champions our teams will need your support. Please contact our Merck Foster. [marcksgardening@outlook.com](mailto:marcksgardening@outlook.com) 073058 55106 if you or your children would like to participate. Trampolines, Multiple stalls to browse, raffle, plus Food truck, bar, and more. Parking will be behind the church on Albion Fields.

In the evening there will be a Tug of War after Party at the Lamb Inn with live music, a DJ and a gourmet food van. Parking again on Albion Fields (pub car park will be closed). Don't miss out on your chance to grab your spot on the guest list as it's filling up fast. Message Laura on 07889703791 to get your name down now! There is no entry fee to The Lamb Fest, but we do kindly ask for a small donation towards the fundraiser upon arrival.

The AGM for the Village Hall is at 18:30 on 13th June. This is an open meeting so please feel free to join us.

### **Regular activities in the Hall include:**

Mondays at 10.30 am Yoga & Fitness with Yvonne ([y.cartwright@btinternet.com](mailto:y.cartwright@btinternet.com))

Tuesdays at 9:30 am, and Thursdays at 18.30 Keep Fit on with Alyce ([alycefwf@gmail.com](mailto:alycefwf@gmail.com))

Wednesday 9:30 am Advanced Textile on workshop with Amargeet ([amarjeetnandhra@virginmedia.com](mailto:amarjeetnandhra@virginmedia.com))

Friday 9:30 am Yoga and Pilates with Lee ([lee@grahamcaulfield.co.uk](mailto:lee@grahamcaulfield.co.uk))

WI 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 19:30 contact Kath Stacy ([kathstacey@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kathstacey@yahoo.co.uk))

Crafts 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 19:00 contact Kath Stacy ([kathstacey@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kathstacey@yahoo.co.uk))

Parish Council 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

For details of, news, booking info and the online events calendar please view the Pine Lodge webpage at [www.littlemilton.org.uk](http://www.littlemilton.org.uk), or contact Linda Lovegrove [linda.pinelodge@yahoo.com](mailto:linda.pinelodge@yahoo.com)

# **INTER VILLAGE TUG OF WAR**



**FIVE VILLAGES GO HEAD-TO-HEAD AT  
LITTLE MILTON REC ON  
SATURDAY 24TH JUNE @ 12PM**



**MARKET STALLS**

**TRAMPOLINES**

**PROSECCO TENT**

**THE LAMB INN BEER BAR**

**BURGERS, HOTDOGS, DONUTS**

**SLUSHIES**

**ICE CREAMS & CAKES**

**MUSIC**

**JOIN US FOR A FUN, FAMILY FUNDRAISER.  
COME & SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LADIES,  
MENS & JUNIOR TEAMS!**



**LIMITED PARKING AVAILABLE AT THE PINE LODGE, ADDITIONAL PARKING  
AT ALBION BARN, CHURCH HILL. AFTER PARTY AT THE LAMB INN.**

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

### **May**

1st	No 7	£9.00
2nd	No 37	£7.00
3rd	No 40	£5.00

**Diane Austin**

### **SEWING GROUP**

This will meet on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 38 Chiltern View from 11.00am, the home of Teresa Quested. Please telephone Teresa on 278922 if you're planning on coming along.

*Sally Ann Dennis*

### **PINS NEEDLES AND PIMMS JULY 29th**

On Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup> the Sewing Group are celebrating our 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary with an event in St. James' Church. We will be sharing many of our projects created over the years since 2002 when we created the new Church Banner and restored the original Banner. Additionally, we will be showcasing our 2023 Project for St. James' as well as serving Pimms and chatting. Put the date in your diary now to avoid any disappointment.

*Sally Ann Dennis*

### **NEWS FROM LITTLE MILTON SCHOOL**

#### *Small School, Big Heart, Great Start*

As we reach the end of SATs or 'Cake Week' as we call it, we are enormously proud of our amazing year 6 children for their fantastic attitude, hard work and maturity. We are also very impressed with the rest of the school, as they have been very supportive to our year 6 children and also waited patiently for the tests to finish before they could have their break!

We celebrated the end of 'Cake Week' with our traditional Ascension Day service and walk to Great Haseley. After the last test was completed, the whole school enjoyed break time and a much – appreciated iced bun kindly donated by Teresa (one of our governors). Having sufficiently 'refuelled', we were then ready to set off on our journey through fields and glorious countryside to St Peter's Church in Great Haseley. Everyone was in good spirits and responded admirably to the challenge of the submerged footpaths, slippery mud, and threatening weather. Despite the sunshine's reluctance to make an appearance, it was wonderful to see everyone walking happily, enjoying the fresh air. Well done to all the children who read with such clear voices and to the school, who sang beautifully. Thank you to the parents who joined us too, it was wonderful to have your support.

Despite the short week in school, the children have managed to engage in their topics and we have seen some super learning taking place. Rowan class have investigated artefacts in an Egyptian 'tomb', as well as mummifying tomatoes (see photos on Twitter). Maple class used Google Earth to 'visit' Whitby as part of their Coastline topic and produced high- quality writing about what they saw. Willows class had another fantastic Forest School session and have continued producing fantastic writing about animals as part of their 'Animal Safari' topic.

We are really pleased to be hosting another film and computer club evening after school which the children always enjoy. Thank you very much to everyone who has helped

with this, especially Sam who provides the food, and to Mrs Austin and Mrs Ford for supervising the event.

**Hannah Blest and James Bell Co-Headteachers**

### **TONS TOGETHER (LITTLE MILTON) WI**

In May, we learned all about tea, coffee, chocolate and caffeine with local author, Melanie King. She offers talks and her books at [www.melaniekingbooks.com](http://www.melaniekingbooks.com).

At our next meeting on **Thursday 8 June at 730pm**, Fine art photographer, Janine Kilroe is going to talk to us about **Working with some of the most dangerous men in the country**.

Everyone welcome - Visitors £5 or become a member for £46.

**Come and meet us at Little Milton Fete on Saturday 17 June 2-4.30pm** at the Old Vicarage (I'll be on the toy tombola) and at the **Tug of War event on Saturday 24 June 12pm** at the Pine Lodge where we'll be serving tea & cakes. Donations of toys and cakes welcome.

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 [www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge](http://www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge)

Details & news on the Pine Lodge page at [www.littlemilton.org.uk](http://www.littlemilton.org.uk)

### **LITTLE MILTON SHOP AND POST OFFICE REVISED SATURDAY**

Commencing in May and ending in September 2023 the Shop and Post Office **opening hours on a Saturday will be 10:00am until 2pm**.

*Kevin Hunt Chairman*

### **FRIENDS OF WELLS FARM**

June sees the emergence of more butterflies so keep an eye out when walking around the reserve. Last month I recorded a Painted Lady butterfly on the bridle path. This is an unusual sighting as they are normally summer migrants, being able to fly up to 7,500 miles and mainly migrating from North Africa to visit us. These butterflies can be a good climate change indicator species.

The grass is growing really fast so there will be places that will be a bit overgrown so mind how you go in these areas. Look out for the hares. There are quite a few leverets about although the crops will be hiding them well so you may just see the tips of the ears poking through.

Last month the sheep were shorn and without their heavy wool they will be much happier in the hot weather. Please keep your dogs on a lead through the fields with sheep in.

I have not planned a work party in June yet due to the fete and surveying priorities. Keep an eye out for the work party signs for the next date.

*Paul Jeffery (Tel: 278 424 Email: [Paulj201@hotmail.com](mailto:Paulj201@hotmail.com))*

## VIEW FROM VIEWS

What a wonderful time of year this is everything bursting to life, as I write the “May” some 2 weeks late is a picture in full bloom as, is the case for most flowering trees bushes etc. and, with the dawn chorus such a wonderful way to wake up, the birds all busy doing their thing Swallows swooping around after insects with, the incessant sounds of larks arising, plus the snatches of fragrant scents as you walk or drive past certain plants that are in flower, makes you feel the world is at last waking up.

Here we go again me moaning about the weather after rain over the coronation weekend believe it or not, we have floods again, interestingly though in spite of having 15mm rain on coronation day it was not until we had 12mm 2 days later that the river burst its banks. Now the river meadows will once again be of no use. I think although the wet at the start of May is extremely tiresome, I do not believe it will do any harm just, as long as it does not continue until early June. Due to this extra wet in early May and, the cold spring, it is amazing now to see the resultant growth, it makes me think this is not so bad after all, as hopefully it will be helping things catch up.

We decided to plant our Lupins a little earlier this year into an excellent seed bed, this allowed them to come though the ground within a fortnight and, at the time of writing look quite promising, somewhat different to last year. The conditions were almost perfect as it has been for most other crops which seem to have recovered from the conditions they had to put up with through the winter. This is with the exception of the damage inflicted by pigeons where there is no plant at all, I think about 2/3 of the area is going to be as good as any other year, with the rest being about ½ a crop with about 1/3 of that producing next to nothing. In future we will have to plan to plant the most affected area of rape with an alternative that the pigeons don't like and see what happens. The prospects for next year's harvest look promising, I will not predict any further than that, it is after all early, next month's weather will be critical but, with the winter barley now in ear the current “sweet refreshing rain will help fill the grain”, on the other hand if we have continual rain and some wind many crops will be beaten to the ground and unsalvageable then that's the farming gamble!

Times are difficult not just the general market but to get things done, our telescopic loader (jack of all trades on farms these days with the lack of affordable labour) has been out of action for some 8 weeks weighting for engineers to diagnose the problem and, then to get the spare part. As this is a machine we rely on for the myriad of little daily tasks that just have not been done, not to mention sometimes important ones like feeding of livestock on a daily basis, it is a vital part of everyday the tasks that we rely on. This is most frustrating as no one seems able or prepared to help with a diagnosis or to speed up delivery of vital parts, as I write I understand it is now running and we can have it back. I mention this as it seems that no one seems to care about anything important any more, plus it is impossible to get hold of anyone to talk to.

I feel I must pay tribute to our recently retired local councillor Caroline Newton to me she has been everything we would want from our local representative, always there to support us in any appropriate way an excellent councillor who will be missed by us all. Whilst on the subject I wish somehow, we could be informed before an election who was standing, as I had not a clue until I saw the names on the ballot paper, there must, another time be a mechanism by which we are informed, local paper or even the council.

I recently read that, the Herefordshire farmer who dredged the river Lugg, I would not condone this action but, it does illustrate the frustration we can sometimes feel when it

appears no one is listening to us. As a result of this and the support from the local population he acted, now he has to pay the consequences, jailed for 12 Months and ordered to pay £600,000. (I thought the case had been forgotten) I too am fed up with the flooding we have to put up with, caused mainly I believe by all the development that is going on in our area without, the precautions that the developer, I thought had to take. It seems the authorities are either powerless or just useless, so nothing happens, which makes the River systems, more like drainage ditches than, natural water courses. Then if this is the case would need periodic maintenance, destroying all the good works that the Rivers Trusts and, we farmers, are trying to do, to conserve nature. This though pails into insignificance while water authorities are allowed release sewage into the rivers as they do! Please someone get a grip.

*Charles Peers*



Over here in Henley we've had a heavy spate of thefts of vehicles with keyless entry. The Henley Neighbourhood Team asked me if I could message our local residents but I hope this will be of use to many across the South and Vale area so I'm spreading the message wider.

"Thames Valley Police is aware and incredibly concerned about the rise in thefts of vehicles in the Henley area recently. We have seen a number of vehicles that have 'stop/start' button ignitions stolen, whereby offenders have been able to relay the key signal from inside the house using a specially-made device. Because of this method offenders are often able to make their escape without disturbing owners.

The rise in this type of crime is something many forces nationwide are seeing, and something TVP is taking very seriously. We have coordinated a multi-disciplinary approach to tackling these offenders, and residents can expect to see a rise in police presence around Henley, especially in the early hours when these offences are typically taking place. Rest assured we are doing everything we can to prevent this type of crime, and to catch offenders responsible.

If residents own a vehicle that can be started without physically inserting a key into the ignition, there are a few things we can advise to help prevent this type of theft happening to you. Firstly keep keys as far from the car as is practicable, to help reduce the chance of the signal being relayed. Secondly 'Faraday' pouches or boxes are specifically designed to block the key signal. Keeping your keys in one of these will reduce the risk of the signal being relayed to start the ignition. More robust defences can also be applied, for example a steering lock or a bollard on a driveway will reduce the chances of offenders being able to drive the vehicle away, should they gain access.

TVP would encourage anyone to get in touch should they see anything they believe may be relevant. If it is an emergency please dial 999, for all other updates please call 101, and quote crime reference number 43230193606."



**Morland House Surgery, Morland Close,  
Wheatley OX33 1DP**

The usual surgery opening hours are Monday to  
Friday 8am to 6.30pm

Saturday mornings (excluding Bank Holiday  
weekends) 8am to 10.30am, for  
*prebooked* telephone consultations only

We also offer Enhanced Access hours outside of  
these times, please speak to one of our reception  
team for more information.

**From 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023 our new Dispensary hours  
are:**

Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 1pm, Friday  
8.30am to 1pm and 2pm to 6.30pm

*Dispensary is closed on Saturday morning*

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

**MORLAND HOUSE – MAY 2023**

In April the Surgery began to offer further booster vaccinations to those most at risk from COVID. Eligible people include those aged 75 and over (by June 30); those aged 5 and over with weakened immune systems; and residents of care homes for older adults. Eligible people can also book boosters on the National Booking Service or the NHS App or visit a walk-in COVID-19 vaccination site.

For more information, please visit Morland House website: [www.morland-house.co.uk](http://www.morland-house.co.uk)  
Also, the website provides a wealth of information and guidance on managing a vast number of health conditions, symptoms, and treatment e.g.

1. Up-to-date information about surgery opening hours and the wide range of services provided, including new dispensary hours.
2. Morland House Surgery is part of a Primary Care Network involving three other neighbouring GP practices. The PCN now offers patients enhanced access to GPs and nurses later in the evening and on Saturdays.
3. A link to the electronic consulting service eConsult. Use eConsult to ask about your health symptoms, conditions, or treatment. You can even request things like sick notes and GP letters. From the home page click on 'Contact your GP practice Online'.
4. A link to the NHS App. Download the App, or open the NHS website in a web browser, to set up and log in to your NHS Account. Owned and run by the NHS, your NHS Account is a simple and secure way to access a range of NHS services online.
5. Up to date information on current news items including:
  - Oxford Community Diagnostic Centre – X-Rays, blood tests, ultrasounds, CTs and more
  - Information on the NHS 111 online service which is available 24/7
  - Advice on how to stay healthy and well
  - COVID-19 and flu vaccine updates
  - Looking after your mental health
  - Electronic Prescribing Service (EPS)
  - Group A strep and scarlet fever, advice for parents and guardians
  - Discontinuation of blister pack recycling
  - 24/7 breastfeeding support
  - Expansion of bowel cancer screening programme

### **WELLS FARM ALLOTMENTS**

It looks like SSEN are planning to cut back some of the trees that the power lines pass through at some point if not soon then in the Autumn. They will need to take the lines down to do the work and this will mean a planned power cut. I understand they send letters out at least 10 days in advance of such work. This should mean the willow that has caused so much trouble will be sorted out finally.

The pump still needs priming so leave a can of water in the shed for the next person. It is primed by having the handle fully down, pouring water into the top until it gushes out of the spout then swiftly pulling the handle up and down a couple of times to get the water flowing.

Please keep the grass around your allotment nicely mowed and remove the brambles before they really get growing. You can put squashes, outdoor tomatoes and more beans in the ground now, but water well once a week to keep rather than every day to encourage them to get their roots down.

*Paul. ([paulj201@hotmail.com](mailto:paulj201@hotmail.com))*

## Walks Programme June 2023

- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>** Meet at Watlington, recreation ground car park, for a 10 mile walk via Wormsley Park and Cowleaze Wood. Bring a picnic.
- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>** Introductory walks from Christchurch, Thame. See below.
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup>** 5½ mile undulating walk from Studley Green Garden Centre with some steepish ascents/descents. Chance of seeing orchids in Yoesden Nature Reserve. Cafe at end if open.
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>** Meet at Sydenham, by Crown Inn opposite church, for a 6 mile walk via Copcourt House.
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>** 4½ mile leisurely walk from Shabbingdon via Peppershill.
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 10:30am** Leisurely 2½ mile walk from Waterperry Gardens.
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup>** 8½ mile easy walk from Nether Winchendon via Chearsley and Haddenham. Bring a picnic.
- Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>** 8½ mile walk from Holton to Shotover for Oxfordshire Area Ramblers annual picnic. Bring a picnic. Cakes provided!
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>** 6 mile walk from Islip with good views.

*All walks start at 10am unless otherwise stated.*

*Please check the website to confirm details as the programme is subject to change:*

[www.ramblers-oxon.org.uk/thame-wheatley/walking.html](http://www.ramblers-oxon.org.uk/thame-wheatley/walking.html)

*or phone 01844 213608*

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

### Introductory Walks on Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>

Thame & Wheatley Ramblers group will be offering walks to introduce people to walking with the Ramblers. They will start at 10am in Thame Upper High Street car park, a shorter 4 miler finishing with coffee and cake in Christchurch hall and a longer 6-mile one finishing with a soup lunch. Information about the Ramblers and walking locally will be displayed in the hall.

All are welcome!

## **REFLECTION ON VILLAGE CELEBRATION FOR THE CORONATION**

As editor I wish to extend my thanks to all those involved in making the day one to remember. We were treated to our church bells ringing for the King at 9.45 a.m. and there was a shared picnic in the Pine Lodge at 1.00 p.m. I am sure we will all hold our own memories of the day and more importantly the Coronation itself.

I am old enough to remember the Coronation in June 1953 and I suspect there was a greater feeling of the occasion itself as an eight year old. The television coverage today was well in advance of the grainy picture on a small screen with the room being darkened to enhance the picture.

I would like to think (perhaps foolishly) that our young children old enough to understand the event will treasure the occasion and share it with future generations.

Well done to the village for playing its part in the celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III

*Raymond Fergusson Editor*



**John Howell MP writes**

**May 2023**

This month with the local elections we have seen people come and people go as councillors. Firstly my thanks to all those who have worked as local councillors, at parish and district in the last four years or more. Having been a councillor myself I know very well the work that is involved and that sometimes it can be a thankless task. You can never please everyone and there are always more people ready to complain than to compliment. Welcome too to new councillors. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Turnout figures for local elections are generally low. I think this may be that they do not appreciate the work that is done at a local level. Issues are often raised with me that I have to defer to local councils as the councils are fully autonomous and responsible for their own decisions. So perhaps it is timely to remind people what the different councils do and how elected representatives can help on the relevant issues.

Let me start with the most local level of democracy, the parish council. This the elected body closest to the community. Probably the most common topics that parish councils get involved with are planning matters and working for better services and facilities for the community. As a formal body parish councils have the ability to influence other organisations that make decisions affecting the community such as the district and county councils, health authorities, police. As such parish councils have an important role in local democracy and can be a great resource to support a thriving community. Some smaller communities do not have a parish council but instead have a parish meeting. These have fewer powers and are not required to meet as frequently as a parish council. However they are still formal bodies with a representative role for the community and can often help with relevant issues in the same way that a parish council can.

The next tier of local government in this area is the district council. The constituency is served by two district councils, Cherwell District Council and South Oxfordshire District Council. They are responsible for local services, including planning, housing

and associated benefits, rubbish collection. environmental services, leisure services, some car parks and council tax collection.

Finally we have the County Council. This is a much larger council which is responsible for services across the whole of a county including education, social services, transport, roads (except trunk roads and motorways), public rights of way, libraries, the fire service, culture, trading standards, bus subsidies, minerals, waste and recycling (disposal) and the environment.

Each of these council has elected representatives who take decisions on the relevant issues and are there to help residents in the areas of their responsibility. These people should be the first port of call to raise concerns with as they have direct access to information and, in the case of the larger councils, the officers employed to assist. From my own experience as a local councillor, and working alongside many other councillors, I know that most people who put themselves forward for these roles do it because they want to help and support their community. I would therefore encourage residents to take an interest in what they do and seek their support if necessary. Just as I can sometimes help with issues relating to central government departments, so local councillors can help with issues relating to their councils' areas of responsibility.

If there is a particular issue that concerns you, please do share your thoughts. My contact details are on my website - [www.johnhowell.org.uk](http://www.johnhowell.org.uk).

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

#### **DEADLINE REMINDER** –

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 **July 2023** Newsletter should be with the Editor at 27 Chiltern View, Little Milton, by 8.00 p.m. on **18th June**. The Editor reserves the right not to print items submitted for publication and to edit those items, which are published.

## **KEY TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Age UK	01865 890879	Naheed Qureshi
Citizens Advice Bureau	0808 278 7907	Thame & District
Church: St James	01844 278349	Revd. Simon Cronk
Doctors	01865 872448 111 0845 345 8995 999	Morland Surgery Out of Hours Service NHS Helpline Medical Emergencies
Little Milton Shop	01844 278175	Alison Shelton (Manager)
Little Milton School	01844 279310	Hannah Blest and James Bell Co-Head Teachers
Milk Deliveries	07773006485	A J Woods Ltd
MUGA	Bookings for the courts are made at the Post Office	
Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter	01844 279468 01844 279150	Mark Willis Raymond Fergusson (Editor)
OCC	01865 792422	All enquiries
Parish Council	01844 278180 01844 875635	Francois Van der Merwe (Chair) Andrea Oughton (Clerk)
Pine Lodge	01844 278605 01844 279535 0844 7255568	Steve Willis (Chairman) Linda Lovegrove (Bookings) 24/7 Call out service
Police	101	Thames Valley Police (Non-emergency)
Post Office	01844 279001	Alison Shelton (Postmistress)
Public Transport	01865 323201	Comet
SODC	01235 422422	All enquiries
Southern Electric	0800 0727 282	Emergency Number
Thames Water	0800 3169 800	Emergency Number
The Lamb	01844 279527	Ben & Charmain
Biffa (Verdant)	03000 610610	All enquiries

For all other numbers go to website [www.littlemilton.org.uk](http://www.littlemilton.org.uk)

**Front Cover:**