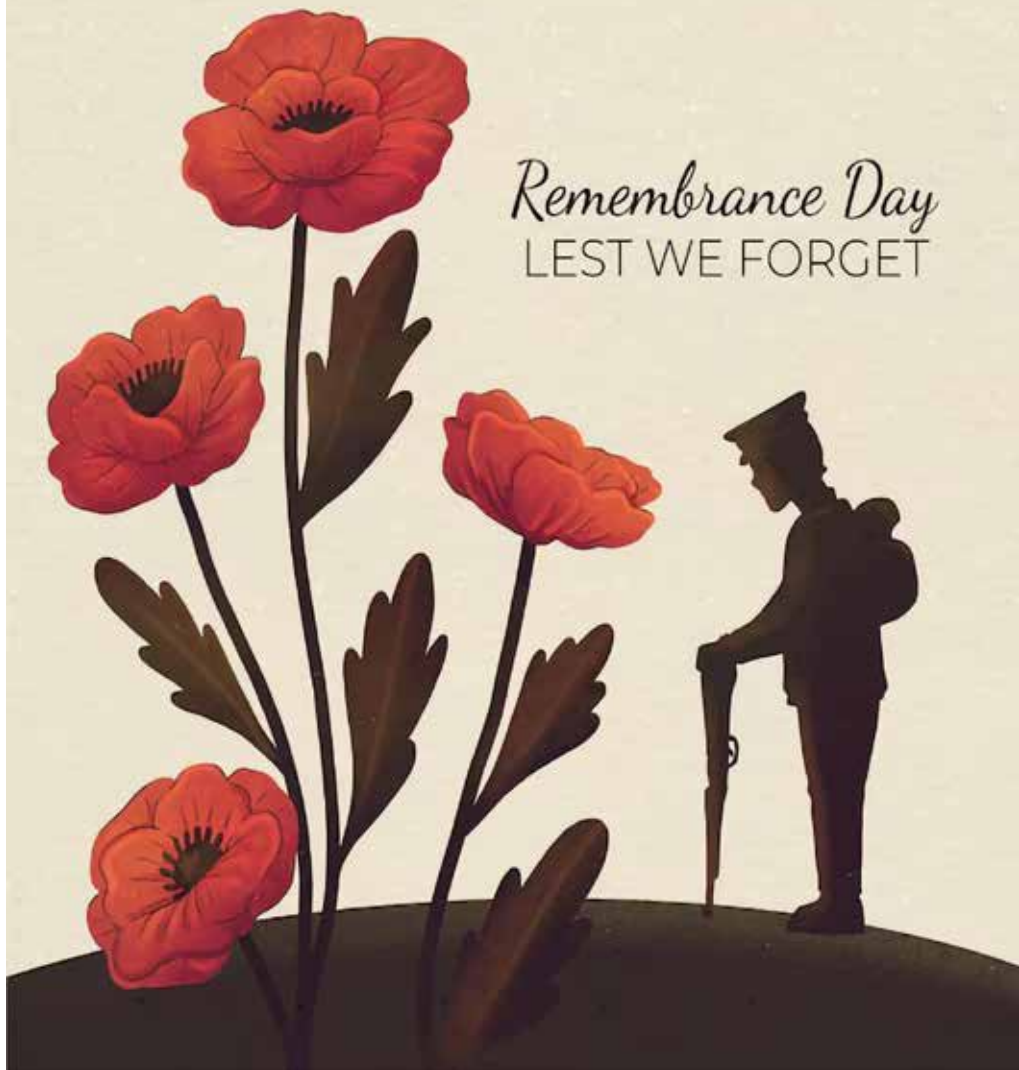


Little Milton *Newsletter*

Remembrance Day
LEST WE FORGET



November 2025

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: NOVEMBER 2025

Sun	2nd	9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion CW St James'
Mon	3rd	5.15 – 6.00 p.m.	Kids Karate – Pine lodge
Tues	4th	9.30–10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge
Thurs	6th	1.00 – 2.00 p.m. 6.00 – 7.00 p.m.	Pilate- Pine Lodge Exercise Class – Pine Lodge
Frid	7th	9.30 a.m.	Keep Fit – Pine Lodge
Sat	8th	6.00 p.m.	Fireworks – Recreation Ground
Sun	9th	10.45 a.m.	Remembrance Service'
Mon	10th	5.15 – 6.00 p.m.	Kids Karate – Pine lodge
Tues	11th	9.30–10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge
Wed	12th	7.30 p.m.	Parish Council – Pine Lodge
Thurs	13th	1.00 -2.00 p.m. 6.00 – 7.00 p.m. 7.00 p.m.	Pilate- Pine Lodge Exercise Class – Pine Lodge WI – Pine Lodge
Frid	14th	9.30 a.m.	Keep Fit – Pine Lodge
Mon	17th	5.15 – 6.00 p.m.	Kids Karate – Pine lodge
Tues.	18th	9.30– 10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge
Wed	19th	7.00 p.m.	Craft Club – Pine Lodge
Thurs	20th	1.00 -2.00 p.m. 6.00 – 7.00 p.m.	Pilate- Pine Lodge Exercise Class – Pine Lodge
Frid	21st	9.30 a.m.	Keep Fit - Pine Lodge
Mon	24th	5.15 – 6.00 p.m.	Kids Karate – Pine lodge
Tues	25th	9.30– 10.30 a.m.	Exercise Class- Pine Lodge
Wed	26th	11.00 a.m.	Sewing Group – Spring Cottage
Thurs	27th	1.00 -2.00 p.m. 6.00 – 7.00 p.m.	Pilate- Pine Lodge Exercise Class – Pine Lodge
Frid	28th	9.30 a.m. 7.30 p.m.	Keep Fit – Pine Lodge Wine Man's Bluff – Pine Lodge
Sun	30th	10.30 p.m.	Holy Communion CW 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 state

SUMMARY OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2025

Below is a summary of some of the planning discussions that took place at the Parish Council meeting held in October.

Report by District / County Councillors

County Councillor Edwards had given her apologies and submitted her report. Here is an extract from the report.

Chalgrove Airfield Proposed Development

There's been a lot of discussion about the proposed housing development at Chalgrove airfield recently. I asked for a briefing with Oxfordshire County Council's (OCC) planning team and went with Freddie van Mierlo, MP and Cllr David Turner (South Oxfordshire District Council ((SODC)), Chalgrove ward) to meet the leadership team at Martin-Baker Ltd to understand their perspective. My key takeaways from this learning are:

Martin-Baker Ltd are clear that there is no viable alternative site for their operations, and they could not easily transfer the tests that they do elsewhere. The firm is crucial to the safety of air force jets around the world, and their systems have saved hundreds of lives over the years. They genuinely do not have a "Plan B" and are planning to fight not only the planning application but also any compulsory purchase order. Freddie van Mierlo MP has secured the promise of a meeting with the Secretary of State for Defence to discuss the security implications of putting this important British company at risk.

Homes England is now clearly preparing to submit a planning application to SODC in the next few weeks and are inviting residents to a public consultation event in Chalgrove at the John Hampden Hall between 2:30 and 7pm on 22nd October. Cllrs van der Merwe and Harrison will attend the event.

Planning

P25/S2724/HH - The Thatched House, High Street, Little Milton, OX44 7PU

Demolition of existing single storey rear extension and erection of a new single storey extension. **Resolved to Fully Support the application.**

P25/S1653/FUL - Haseley Trading Estate {Post meeting note}

South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) Planning Committee met on 8th October to consider the application to convert the old Countax site at Great Haseley Trading Estate to a park and ride hub for the districts' bin lorries.

Little Milton, Great Milton and Great Haseley had the opportunity to voice our deep concerns with this application – for Little Milton these focussed on the traffic impact of routing all bin lorries through our village, as well as on the impact to the pumping station on the Haseley Road of adding the substantial amount of water that will arise from daily washing of 50 bin lorries.

Our District Councillor Georgina Heritage and MP Freddie van Mierlo joined the meeting, and both spoke up to strongly support our points. However, despite this SODC, as expected, approved their own planning application so the site will go ahead.

The Planning Committee accepted that as a condition of this approval a number of conditions need to be applied, including on the number of vehicles that will travel through Little Milton and the times that they can enter the village. The wording was not defined in the meeting, but we are following up with SODC to push for a condition that

no waste vehicles, other than those serving the villages immediately adjacent to Little Milton, are allowed to pass through our village either on their way out in the morning or on their way back in the afternoon.

This is not the only avenue that is still open. There is still a possibility that the process followed to select this site - which is clearly in the wrong place to serve South Oxfordshire effectively and efficiently - could be challenged through Judicial Review. This will likely be a costly process so at this stage we are seeking any individuals who would be willing to support this financially. Please contact Francois van der Merwe if you would be willing to contribute.

Recreation Ground /Open Green Space

The sycamore tree at the rear of the village shop will be reduced in size on 5th November 2025. Winter bedding plants have been purchased for all the village planters.

Haseley Brook; the village does not meet the criteria for a S19 investigation (5 or more houses flooded). No decision has been made on the type of flood mitigation equipment to purchase with SODC grant funding.

Correspondence

Elsfield Residents Group has written to parish councils inviting them to a public meeting to stand together and demonstrate unity against the significant threat to rural communities posed by the Greater Oxford unitary option. It was agreed that Cllr van der Merwe will attend on behalf of the parish council.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 12th November 2025** 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

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: Judith Edwards	judith.edwards@oxfordshire.gov.uk
District Councillor Georgina Heritage	georgina.heritage@southoxon.gov.uk

SODC: WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

The minimum charge is £53.50 for up to 3 items and £10.25 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 count 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

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 – NOVEMBER 2025

	Brown	Grey		Green	Food
4th November	No	Yes		No	Yes
11th November	Yes	No		Yes	Yes
18th November	No	Yes		No	Yes
25th November	Yes	No		Yes	Yes

UPDATE FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR – GEORGINA HERITAGE

Joint Local Plan

Yesterday afternoon we received some incredibly disappointing news regarding South & Vale's Joint Local Plan submission. I'm afraid that if I try to express my own view on the matter it may result in a political rant entirely unsuitable for a monthly parish report. I hope to articulate my thoughts in a reasoned manner in due course, and we're still very much in the process of digesting this news and exploring the next steps. SODC has released the following statement:

A statement on behalf of South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils

Over the past four years, South and Vale have worked incredibly hard together to create an innovative, forward-looking and positive plan for housing and development in our areas that seeks to raise standards, actively address the need for genuinely affordable social housing and sustainable infrastructure, and to tackle the climate emergency and restore nature.

We've done this through widespread and extensive consultation and engagement with the thousands of stakeholders who have willingly and constructively engaged in the process, including members of the public, community representatives, partner organisations, neighbouring councils, the development industry and other businesses in the area.

We are therefore disheartened and very disappointed that the Planning Inspectors have recommended that we withdraw the plan from the examination process over a single issue - namely the "duty to co-operate", specifically with Oxford City Council. The city council itself was forced to withdraw its own local plan from examination earlier this year on several issues regarding the duty to co-operate.

It's no secret that there's disagreement within Oxfordshire on how many homes the rural districts should provide on Oxford's behalf. Nevertheless, all councils in Oxfordshire are working towards what they believe to be in the best interests of their residents and their area.

Cllr David Rouane, Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council, said: "We are disappointed but not surprised given recent rulings from Planning Inspectors nationally – an increasing number of emerging local plans around the country are being recommended for withdrawal for this issue in particular; Horsham and Mid Sussex spring to mind as recent examples.

"We developed a constructive and collaborative plan and engaged with the city through a variety of methods, even when there was clear disagreement over both the need and the approach. It is not clear what more we could have done on this front.

"Our approach to measuring housing need was in line with the Inspectors of Oxford's plan last year. Since our examination hearings in June, Oxford's latest local plan consultation shows that using the government's standard method there would be no more homes for us to find for Oxford.

"There are aspects of the Inspectors' letter that we're keen to review, but our most important role is to ensure where we can that we represent our communities and their needs."

The councils are in discussions about the next steps and will provide a further update in due course.

The [Inspectors' letter is available on the councils' website](#).

UPDATE FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR – JUDITH EDWARDS

Chalgrove Airfield Proposed Development

There's been a lot of discussion about the proposed housing development at Chalgrove airfield recently, so it felt useful to find out more about the current state of play. I asked for a briefing with OCC's planning team and also went with Freddie van Mierlo MP and Cllr David Turner (SODC, Chalgrove ward) to meet the leadership team at Martin-Baker to understand their perspective. My key takeaways from this learning are:

- The new SODC joint local plan should protect Chalgrove from a development of this size as Chalgrove is no longer in the plan, but unfortunately it is not yet in force. It is currently being examined by the Planning Inspector and confirmation of the plan is expected around December this year. Until the new plan is formally in place, the previous plan which did include Chalgrove is the most important policy which means that the site is vulnerable until that point.
- Martin-Baker Ltd. are clear that there is no viable alternative site for their operations, and they could not easily transfer the tests that they do elsewhere. The firm is crucial to the safety of air force jets around the world, and their systems have saved hundreds of lives over the years. They genuinely do not have a "Plan B" and are planning to fight not only the planning application but also any compulsory purchase order. Freddie van Mierlo MP has secured the promise of a meeting with the Secretary of State for Defence to discuss the security implications of putting this important British company at risk.

STOP PRESS! Homes England is now clearly preparing to submit a planning application to SODC in the next few weeks. Homes England are inviting residents to a public consultation event in Chalgrove at the **John Hampden Hall between 2:30 and 7pm on 22nd October**.

Oxford Temporary Congestion Charge

The county council's scheme to tackle traffic problems in Oxford in the short-term is planned to start on Wednesday 29 October.

The temporary congestion charge will reduce traffic in the city during Network Rail's extended closure of Botley Road, making journeys quicker, more connected, more flexible and more reliable. When Botley Road reopens, the council will be able to introduce its traffic filter trial as planned.

Cars with a valid permit will be able to drive free of charge through all six congestion charge locations in Oxford. Residents are now able to [apply for permits](#) ahead of the launch of Oxfordshire County Council's temporary congestion charge in Oxford, using an online permit registration system.

GREAT MILTON METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES: NOVEMBER 2025

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

Date	Time	Church	Preacher	Comment
2nd November	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Paul Spray	
9th November	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Local Arrangement	
16th November	11.00 a.m..	Great Milton	Joint Service with St Mary's	Holy Communion
23rd November	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Michael Sawyer	
30th November	11.00 a.m.	Great Milton	Miriam Moul	

BENEFICE SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday 2nd November

9.00	Holy Communion	St James' Little Milton
10.30	Family Worship	St Peter's Great Haseley
4.00 pm	Service of Commemoration for the departed St Peters	

Sunday 9th November

10.45	Act of Remembrance at War Memorial Followed by service of Holy Communion	St Mary's Great Milton
10.45	Act of Remembrance	St James' Little Milton
10.45	Act of Remembrance at War Memorial Followed by Remembrance Service With Toby Garfitt	St Peters Great Haseley

Sunday 16th November

9.00	Holy Communion taken by Rt Rev. Bishop Rt Rev, Bishop Gavin Collins, Bishop of Dorchester	St Peters Great Haseley
11.00	Joint Service with Methodists	Methodist Chapel Gt. Milton

Sunday 23rd November

9.00	Holy Communion BCP	St James' Little Milton
10.30	Benefice Morning Worship	St Peters Great Haseley

Sunday 30th November

10.30	Benefice Holy Communion	St James' Little Milton
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SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION AND THANKSGIVING

On Sunday 2 November, in addition to the regular services, there will be a special **Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving** at 4.00 pm in St Peter's, Great Haseley. This is an opportunity to remember family members and friends who have died recently, or not so recently. Their names will be read out, and you can light a candle in their memory. It's a lovely quiet moment of reflection. Do come and join us, or if you can't make it on the day, send the name(s) to Toby Garfitt, 07941 164038.

LAST ORDERS – FINAL PINT

By the time this is read I will have celebrated my final service in the Benefice, 10 years and one week after I was licensed here as the Rector. There is a tradition that incoming parish priests ring a Church bell, if there is one, at their licensing service, with the number of tolls corresponding with the number of years they will be in post. It is not binding of course, but at St Mary's I consciously rang the Bell ten times, I always planned to be here ten years. If any of you go to the service welcoming my successor, whenever that will be, count the number of times the bells are rung!

I don't for a minute regret coming here, even though at times it has been very challenging. The first year was a very big adjustment, having left a single Church with several substantially larger congregations. Whilst of course I would love to see our churches filled and thriving, I have also grown to love the intimacy of this 'ministry in the small' - to know every person who worships and be able to administer communion by name has been a privilege. If a rare visitor comes along, I make it my business to find out their name. I have though, particularly enjoyed being a parish priest with a focus, and not simply on the Church.

The management of Church buildings has never been my first love, and I have been so grateful that that has largely been taken off my hands. I realise that they are precious, and I love the history they contain, and the centuries of prayer they have absorbed, but there is a constant danger that our buildings take priority over the people who use or visit them. I believe they should be signposts to something else, something that is not built in stone; they were never meant to be the final destination!

There have been high points and low points. Getting the latter out of the way first, most will be aware that I had to take a few months off a few years ago, the result of an accumulation of circumstances. Oddly, one of the high points was in fact during Covid, when we were not able to be in our buildings at all. It was an extraordinary experience, from the first fumbling days we tried it, to welcome so many people to our zoom services, all conducted from my study desk. Who among those who came will ever forget the Shepherd yodelling for her sheep (*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them and they follow me*, John 10, 27-28). You had to be there!

There is so much else to say, but I will end simply with a huge thankyou to you all, from Cath and me, for your friendship, your acceptance and your love. We look forward to a new phase of our lives, but leaving this one will not be easy.

At the end of July, Cath had a scheduled operation on two of her finger joints. A few

Simon.

HARVEST PRODUCE

Thank you everyone who brought along wonderful fruit and vegetables for our harvest festival in Saint James church this year... The majority of the produce was taken to Burcot, a local residential nursing home.... It's certainly seemed to be the year of the quince and there were rather too many for the chef at Burcot so the surplus was distributed around the village...

SA Dennis

ST JAMES' CHURCH FETE – SUMMER FETE- 2026

Several people have asked recently “when will we have another fete?” In order for this to happen, we need a team of volunteers to organise and run the event. Tasks include running a stall (opportunities too numerous to list...), obtaining raffle prizes, setting up gazebos etc. We also need a suitable venue.

If you are interested in being part of this, please come to a short meeting in the Pine Lodge at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 11th November to discuss ideas. If sufficient help is forthcoming, we can make a fete happen!

Jane Willis

For St James Church PCC

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR NOVEMBER

W/E 2nd November	–	Mrs A Jones & Mrs Hil Pennick
W/E 9th November	-	Mrs Maggie Bell & Mrs Wendy Newby
W/E 16th November	-	Mrs A Blagg & Mrs Cathy D'Aeth
W/E 23rd November	–	Mrs M Davies & Mrs S A Dennis
W/E 30th November	–	Mrs L. Lovegrove & Mrs C Coward

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA FOR NOVEMBER

W/E 2nd November	–	Teresa
W/E 9th November	–	Teresa
W/E 16th November	–	Chris
W/E 23rd November	–	Chris
W/E 30 th November	–	Advent

FRIENDS OF LITTLE MILTON SCHOOL- 200 CLUB

October

1st	No 11	Sara Scotland	£12.00
No	No 42	Jane & Mark Willis	£8.00
3rd	No 82	Mr Hill	£6.00

Many thanks to all of you who registered with the 200-club last year. This is to remind you that we are now renewing our 200 club for the year 2025/2026 and our first draw will be held on Friday 21st November at school and thereafter on the 3rd Friday of every month.

We hope you will be able to support, or continue to support our village school by joining the 200 club. **Please complete the form that was in the October's newsletter or write your details down on paper and return with payment to either the Post Office or Little Milton School by the 20th November please.**

Many thanks

Diane Austin

On bealf of The Friends of Little Milton School

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF LITTLE MILTON 200 CLUB

I wish to become a member of Little Milton 200 Club for a minimum of 12 months from 1st November 2025.

NAME

ADDRESS

Tel No:

Number of tickets at £1 each month.....x £12 = £

Method of payment CASH

or **CHEQUE** made payable to **FRIENDS OF LITTLE MILTON SCHOOL**

Or BACS to Santander, account number 83882283, sort code 09-01-54
Please state 200 Club

I understand and accept the rules of the Little Milton 200 Club

Signed.....Dated.....

**Please return to the Post Office or Little Milton School by
20th November 2025**

FRIENDS OF WELLS FARM

Autumn is a time for wonderful colours as the trees remove the chlorophyll. This chemical absorbs the blues and reds from the sunlight spectrum but reflects the green which is why they look that colour in the summer. Now there is much less sunlight and the temperatures are dropping, the trees prepare for winter, the chlorophyll breaks down revealing the reds and yellows. The reds are especially vivid when there are periods of bright sunshine and cold nights, so look out for the change in intensity before they fall.

If they have not already arrived, we are likely to have some dexter cattle back at Wells. There will be four of them who will probably go into Poplar field (the one with the big tree). Dogs on leads please. More sheep will arrive as winter gets going but the dry summer has meant a poor hay harvest and some of our fields have very little to nibble on.

The hedgerows are full of berries and these are food for many animals overwintering here. As the weather freezes in Eastern Europe, migrants come to feast on the bounty. Look out for the Fieldfares and Redwings. Fieldfares have a distinctive "chat chat chat" call as they fly over, to help you tell the difference!

If anybody would like to join the stock check volunteer team and be part of the rota, please contact me (paulj201@hotmail.com)

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

WELLS FARM ALLOTMENTS

With the continuing Thames Water disruption to the Haseley Road, the allotments have been accessible only on foot for a long time now. Eventually they should remember how to fix a pipe permanently so you can gain vehicular access once again. They even damaged the gate into one of the fields and parked a cabin on BBOWT land opposite the treatment works without permission! I am hoping to get the tractor to site at some point in order to knock back the brambles. It may be possible to finally tackle the plot 7 jungle if I can remove the fencing as this will get tangled in the 5ft blade.

We have a new allotmentee joining us and can probably accommodate one or two more if anybody is interested in taking on a plot. Just email me (paulj201@hotmail.com) and I can show you around the site. For any allotmentee no longer wishing to have their plot or would rather have a smaller area, let me know this so we can adjust the allocation for next year.

Paul Jeffery (paulj201@hotmail.com)

TONS TOGETHER (LITTLE MILTON) WI

In October we all made gorgeous decoupage shell dishes. A big thank you to Wendy for running the workshop and to Lucinda & Helen for the teas and birthday posy.

On **Thursday 13th November**, we're making mincemeat ready for Christmas. All ingredients will be provided, just bring a bowl, spoon and jars. We'll also be attempting to make a paper stained-glass window for Little Milton Christmas Fayre on Saturday 6 December.

Everyone always welcome, men too!

Visitors £6 or become a 2025/26 member for £25.50.

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

Pine Lodge website: www.lmvh.org.uk

Kath Stacey 01844-279438 tonstogetherwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

VIEW FROM VIEWS

Unbelievable after a long hot, dry summer, with little growth in tilled crops, the weather took a change after these crops had been harvested, and we witnessed a little rain. This just gave enough moisture in the ground to allow early planted catch crops to make an attempt to grow, these are crops we grow to give us ground cover between crops to help sequester carbon. The later planted catch crops showed no signs of growth until a bit of rain just about 2 weeks before we wanted to plant the next crop hy! ho! That's life!. But miracles do happen sometimes as once we decided we had waited long enough for some soil moisture; we planted on the Tuesday Rolled on the Wednesday, just to press the seed onto any moisture there might have been, then that night right on cue we had substantial rain just what was needed. All the soil we have cultivated this autumn has worked beautifully this Autumn and growing conditions could not be better so after a long and arduous summer things might be coming back to something like normal, and by the time this is read perhaps we may have finished all our autumn planting.

This really has been an odd year I mention above all tilled crops but no mention of top fruit, of which I know little, the abundance of fruit has been unbelievable, with very variable keeping qualities. I can only believe that the conditions were right when the fruit first formed with no frost in the late spring, plus these plants/trees/or bushes are well established and have a large root system enabling them to withstand long periods of drought. Some trees I guess will suffer but these will mainly be ones that have been recently planted or transplanted on which we have quite an area, of course this remains to be seen.

The farmers that will really suffer this year will be the livestock producers mainly the Cattle and Sheep as the grass they rely on will be in extremely short supply, and thus expensive, at the moment livestock farmers will be experiencing late summer growth which at the moment is extraordinary, unfortunately this late grass is mainly water with little nutrient value. This lack of feed will mean they will have to turn to cereals to get the nutrients they need which should giving us Arable farmers a bit of a lift. Needless to say, this will not be the case as our wonderful Government did a trade deal to the benefit of the USA not UK, as all that has happened to cereal prices is that they are falling out of bed. To add insult to injury the Dairy companies have made a substantial reduction in the retail price of milk, due to over production or lack of demand, it seems we cannot win at the moment.

On the wildlife front the Swallows have flown to their winter quarters, and we await the arrival of Field Fares and other winter visitors. I have to mention at this stage that one of our endangered farmland birds, the Grey Partridge, have had a good breeding season, I can only think this is because being ground nesting the dry has suited them. I also think

we are getting to understand more about their preferred habitat, to have coveys of over 10, with some of 15, is quite exceptional. A distressing fact was pointed out to me the other day that a Buzzard had tried to take a half-grown Hare not a baby leveret, we have been led to believe these raptors, like the Red Kites will only take carrion (dead not live) any animal that is hungry will I maintain take any food it can, so much for the experts. That may be a little hard as I think Buzzards would be more inclined towards live prey on the whole.

This of course is why we should question the pressure by the vocal minority that we should be introducing species that have not been on our shores for hundreds of years. A case in point, the Hare population has diminished since we came to the Views some 50 years ago, is this due to the reintroduction of the Red Kite in the 90's, of course modern agriculture will have contributed to this as well.

I am sorry if some readers felt my last month's comments were a little out of order, all I can say is that there is in this country what is known, believe it or not, as freedom of speech. I am just sorry that the comments were made to Newsletter editor rather than me, as I believe I have that I have read that "any views made in this publication are not those of the Parish Council or the Editor". The trouble is that there are those of us who have been around a long time have seen so often gross errors in Government policy costing us the taxpayer a fortune in many cases and, just laugh it off, just think of HS2, planning laws made to save the environment modified to suit the government policy, water companies allowed to fleece the country, to name but a few, I could go on, do we just sit back and say nothing? There are those of us who have had to earn a living the hard way, see the country ruled by those who, can only do things by the book to satisfy the vocal minority.

Chales Peers

DATE OF NEXT SEWING GROUP

Thank you, Maggie, for hosting us all in October! This month we are meeting on Wednesday 26th of November from 11 o'clock onwards at Spring Cottage in the Hazeley Road... Do telephone Sally Ann on (01844) 278029 if you would like to join us... You would be very welcome!

S.A. Dennis (01844 278029)

DEADLINE REMINDER / ADVERTISING

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 December **2025** Newsletter should be with the Editor at 27 Chiltern View, Little Milton, by 8.00 p.m. on **18th November**. The Editor reserves the right not to print items submitted for publication and to edit those items, which are published.

All advertising enquiries should be directed to the editor by email at fergie.milton1@btinternet.com.

LITTLE MILTON VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CARD 2025

Yes folks, the glittery baton of festive responsibility has been passed from the lovely Roger Longshaw to me. And fear not: the **legendary Little Milton Christmas Card** tradition lives on!

AND this year... we have a PRIZE DRAW! (*Ooooooooooh*)

For those of you new to our little village (a warm welcome to you), or for those whose memory needs a little nudge — here's the deal:

Each household sends in a short festive message and a donation to our chosen charity. We then create **one glorious, collective Christmas card** which gets delivered around the village.

We save trees. We save stamps. We spread joy.

This jolly tradition has been going strong for over 15 years, and in that time, the village has raised over £22,000 for good causes.

This year's chosen charity is **SeeSaw Grief Support**. SeeSaw provides support for children, young people and their families in Oxfordshire when they have been bereaved or when somebody close to them is terminally ill. A truly worthy cause, especially at this time of year. I know you will give generously.

And yes – **everyone who submits a message will be entered into a prize draw** to win a **Prix Fixe lunch for two at The Lamb**, courtesy of Ben and his team. Thank you, Ben!

This year, we're teaming up with the creative geniuses at Little Milton Primary School and holding a competition to decide which budding young artist will have their masterpiece featured on the front of the village Christmas card.

So Little Miltoners, the form is inside this very newsletter, and the deadline for submissions is **Sunday 30th November**.

I repeat **SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER**.

What's that? **SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER!**

There's a few more details below if anyone has another 30 mins to spare or if you're avoiding doing actual work.

Otherwise, (..can I say this yet?) Merry Christmas!

I look forward to receiving your neighbourly messages of goodwill and your kind donations.

**All the best,
Gabriella Wilkinson**

How do we join in?

Please complete the form in this newsletter and either return it to me or to the Village Shop **before Sunday 30th November**.

Copies of the form are also available at the Post Office.

We will then prepare the cards, print, and distribute in time for Christmas.

How much does it cost?

There is no minimum donation amount, but every pound raised will go to SeeSaw Grief Support.

Who pays for this?

We are very grateful to Juliette Langlais of Morgan & Associates and Ben and Charmaine at The Lamb for, once again, generously sponsoring the printing, and contributing to our prize draw. All the incidental costs are picked up by a benefactor.

How are the cards distributed?

A wonderful team of volunteers will deliver the cards to every household in the village in time for Christmas.

How much is raised?

Last year we raised £2,024 (and we have raised over £22,000 since starting this venture).

Can I see an example?

There is a copy of last years' card at the Post Office.

If I have another question, who do I contact?

Gabriella Wilkinson – 07889 364 395 / 8 Chiltern Vie

Little Milton 2025 Village Christmas Card



For children and young
people in Oxfordshire

Name(s).....

Address

“Unique” Greeting (12 words maximum please)

.....

Donation

- Cheques payable to “SeeSaw”.
- Pay by BACS using your surname as reference to 60-83-71 • 80525895 • Gabriella Wilkinson (account reviewed by Roger Longshaw.)
- Cash also accepted.

Please place your completed form and donation in a sealed envelope with “Village Christmas Card” written on the outside and return to: 8 Chiltern View or to the Post Office by **SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER**.

Many thanks,
Gabriella Wilkinson



If you are a UK taxpayer we can increase the value of your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you. In order to Gift Aid your donation you must agree to the following declaration:
I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signed Date

CHRISTMASS FAYRE NOTICE

Join Us for a Festive Community Celebration!

We are delighted to invite you, your family, and your friends to our annual Christmas Fayre! Come along for an afternoon filled with festive cheer, seasonal treats, and plenty of activities for all ages.

Event Details

December 6th from 2 until 4.30 pm

What to Expect

- Stalls selling homemade crafts, gifts, and Christmas decorations
- Delicious food and drink, including mince pies and mulled wine
- Planted bowls of bulbs and table decorations
- Games and activities for children
- Raffle with fantastic prizes
- Tombola
- Visit from Father Christmas!
- An exhibition of “Stained Glass Windows” made by all the village organisations.

How You Can Help

We would be grateful for volunteers to help set up, run stalls, and tidy up after the event. Donations of cakes, biscuits, jams, chutneys and tombola and raffle prizes are also very welcome. If you can contribute in any way, please contact the organisers using the details below.

Contact Information

The Orchard Preschool, Little Milton Primary School, St James’s Church and the Pine Lodge

We look forward to celebrating the festive season with you. Let’s make this Christmas Fayre a truly magical occasion for everyone!

Teresa Qusted 278922

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT THE PINE LODGE – LITTLE MILTON

Dates for your diary. The annual village **Fireworks** display on Saturday 8th November with gates opening at 6 pm. The following week we have an evening of fun and laughter with a mix of wine tasting and Quiz - **Wine man’s bluff**, on 28th November starting at 7:30 pm. No wine expertise required. Check out the village hall website for details and tickets for both events.

Regular activities in the Hall include:

Monday Karate 17.15 – 18.00 Contact Matt (karateoxfors@gmail.com)

Tuesdays at 9:30 am, **Keep Fit** on with Alyce (alycefwf@gmail.com)

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

Thursday 10:30 am **Fitness with Focus** (mobility and stretching) on with Alyce (alycefwf@gmail.com)

Thursday 1:15 pm **Pilates** on with Lauren (lauren@pop-up-pilates.com)

Thursday 6:00 pm **Keep Fit** on with Alyce (alycefwf@gmail.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 pm contact Kath

Stacy kathstacey@yahoo.co.uk

Crafts 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm contact Kath

Stacy kathstacey@yahoo.co.uk

Parish Council 2nd Wednesday 7:30 pm For further details

contact clerk@littlemilton.org.uk

Village Hall committee 2nd Monday 7:30 pm For further details

contact giles.pinelodge@gmail.com

For details of Hall events, activities, information, or *to book the Hall* please follow the link to our online calendar on the Pine Lodge webpage at <https://lmvh.org.uk/>, or contact **Linda Lovegrove** linda.pinelodge@yahoo.co.uk

OXFORD CONGESTION ZONE

Beginning in November Oxford will begin enforcing a new permitting system for all vehicles entering the city centre congestion zone during charging hours.

Non city residents in Oxfordshire (i.e. Little Milton residents) will be able to make 25 journeys per year free of charge.

You need to register your Vehicle(s) online to be eligible for the credits (the vehicle needs to be registered at your Oxfordshire address - copy of V5 required).

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-travel/oxfords-temporary-congestion-charge-cars/congestion-charge-permits/tcc-oxford-permit-area#paragraph-19063>

Giles Denby



Bees in Winter

Heading into the cold winter months, we need to be even more considerate to our local bees than usual. In winter, honeybee queens remain in their hives with the exception of particularly sunny days. Bumblebee queens may also emerge from hibernation if prompted to by mild weather. Solitary bees will leave their nests once ready to mate. When bees do emerge during winter, they need to have access to nectar, or they risk dying of starvation. In order to help these pollinators survive the winter, we recommend you plant winter bloomers in your garden. These include single flowered Hellebores (the open face gives great access to pollen and nectar!), Crocuses (make sure to plant them in an area with lots of light so they fully open), Snowdrops and Aconites. Ivy also works well as a late nectar source as well as shelter from any harsh conditions. If gardening isn't your thing, you can make natural spaces bee friendly by creating twig and leaf piles (which can be as easy as not raking your garden when fallen leaves drop!) and caring for wayward queen bumblebees by either carefully relocating them to flowers or offering her a 1:1 sugar and water solution.

Tips for looking after our hedgehogs this winter

- Always move your burn piles before you light them as hedgehogs and frogs often use them to sleep in. This is, after-all, how hedgehogs were once upon a time cooked to be eaten! Thankfully it is now illegal to eat this endangered species.
- If you find a sick or injured hedgehog, or one that's up and about during the middle of the day, call either Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue centre on [07549322464](tel:07549322464) or TiggYWinkle's wildlife hospital on [01844 292292](tel:01844292292).
- Leave some areas untouched! Messy log piles, long grass and fallen leaves are great for hibernating hedgehogs. Please leave a wild area in your garden so our hedgehogs can hibernate in peace - nice and cosy and safe.
- Put out a shallow dish of water or make sure your ponds are easy to get out of for hedgehogs, so they have water to drink. Sometimes hedgehogs come out of hibernation to eat and drink, especially in warmer weather, so even at this time of year, putting out water can help.
- Avoid using pesticides or herbicides as this will make hedgehogs very ill. Find out more at www.hedgehogrescue.org.uk

To find out more about Hedgehogs head over to the Wild Oxfordshire website at www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk and have a look in guidance for mammals.

Rhiannon Young – Wild Oxfordshire Nature Recovery Engagement Officer
<https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/>



The poster is for 'The South Oxfordshire CHRISTMAS FAIR'. It features a central star logo above the title. The event is on Tuesday 18th November 2025, from 9.30am to 4pm, at The Oxfordshire Golf Club. The entrance fee is £7.50. It is sponsored by 'Hamptons THE HOME EXPERTS'. The fair is in support of 'SeeSaw Grief Support' and 'Style Acre'. The website www.southoxfordshirechristmasfair.com is listed at the bottom. The poster is decorated with holly leaves and berries in the corners.

The South Oxfordshire CHRISTMAS FAIR

Tuesday 18th November 2025

9.30am - 4pm

The Oxfordshire Golf Club

Off A329, Near Thame OX9 2PU

Entrance £7.50

Sponsored by

Hamptons
THE HOME EXPERTS

In Support of

SeeSaw Grief Support
Registered Charity No 1074411

Style Acre
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www.southoxfordshirechristmasfair.com



Looking for the perfect gift?

Whether it's a birthday treat or getting ahead for Christmas, we've got you covered!



Say Goodbye to Bulky Glasses Cases!

Our new lightweight and compact Alice Wheeler glasses cases keep your specs safe in style. Pair them with our elegant compact mirrors for a thoughtful little gift set. They're going quick, so get one while you can!

New Gluten-Free Section

We're excited to introduce a dedicated range of gluten-free goodies, including cakes from our café. Some are vegan too, so dairy-free friends are included!



Pamper Yourself (or Someone Special!)

From Toasted Crumpets, we now stock gorgeous hand creams, diffusers, soaps, and candles. They don't just look beautiful – they smell incredible too!

Discover the New Range from Two Spoons Tea

Lovingly blended by local tea experts in Chesham, from bold breakfast brews to soothing herbal blends, there's a perfect cup waiting for you!

Pop in, have a browse, and discover what's new
– there's something for everyone!

Walks Programme 2025 November

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Sunday 2nd | Scenic hilly 6½ mile walk with some stiles from Piddington, near Dashwood Arms PH, via Bledlow Ridge. |
| Wednesday 5th | Pleasant 5½ mile walk with good views starting at Swyncombe Church. Passes edge of Russell's Water and through Ewelme Park. |
| Saturday 8th | Leisurely 4½ mile walk from Tiddington Village Hall, preceding the Thame & Wheatley Ramblers AGM. |
| Tuesday 11th | Gentle, social 2½ mile walk from the Dinton Hermit in Ford, coffee at the finish. |
| Friday 14th | Undulating 5-mile Chilterns walk from Whiteleaf Cross car park, passing Pulpit Hill and Chequers. |
| Sunday 16th 10:30am | 6-mile walk starting at the town car park in Hill Road, Watlington. Opportunity to visit the Watlington ArtsHub 'Into the Woods' exhibition or for lunch/snacks in the town at the finish. |
| Sunday 23rd | A 6 mile walk from Tetsworth via Latchford and Stoke Talmage. |
| Thursday 27th | Undulating 6½ mile walk from Oxford, Thornhill P&R, via Shotover. |
| Saturday 29th | A mainly flat 6 mile walk from Towersey, near Three Horseshoes PH. |

All walks start at 10am unless otherwise stated.

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

www.ramblers-oxon.org.uk/thame-wheatley/walking.html

or phone 01844 213608

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

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 consultations only

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

A new Morland House Surgery **Facebook Page** has been created. This is to keep
patients up to date with surgery news and health issues. Please like and follow.

Ordering Repeat Prescriptions: Please use the NHS App or log into your account on
the NHS website. For more information on ordering, visit the 'prescriptions' page on
our website.

Winter vaccinations are available to protect against serious illnesses like flu and
COVID-19. To check eligibility and get information on booking visit [Winter
vaccinations and winter health - NHS](#). MHS has finished vaccinating for the 2025/26
winter season, but vaccinations are still available from local pharmacies.

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COVID-19. To check eligibility and get information on booking visit [Winter
vaccinations and winter health - NHS](#). MHS has finished vaccinating for the 2025/26
winter season, but vaccinations are still available from local pharmacies.

Weight Loss Medication is in the news and GPs can now prescribe Mounjara one of
the leading drugs. Eligibility criteria are very strict and only a very small number of
MHS patients will be eligible and contacted directly by the Surgery.

Changes to the routine childhood immunisation schedule from July 2025 designed
to provide even better protection for babies and children. The recent rise in measles
cases mean it is more important than ever to ensure your children's vaccinations are up
to date.

Visit Morland House Surgery Website for a wealth of information and guidance on
managing a vast number of health conditions, symptoms, and treatment:
www.morland-house.co.uk For example:

Medical Records and Test Results - guidance on how to access this information

Travelling abroad – what MHS can and cannot do for you- heat

Pharmacy First Service (PFS), whereby pharmacies can treat directly seven common
health conditions

Group Consultation Clinics – Successful group clinics are currently being offered
for the menopause and hypertension. Eligible patients are being invited to attend, but
if you would like to know more, please do contact us.

Breast screening to detect the most common cancer in woman

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Drink Coaches – take the quick and

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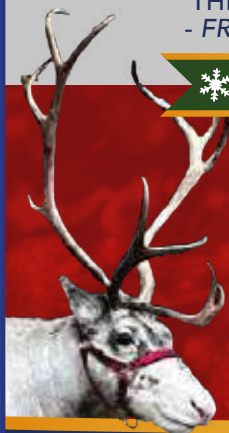
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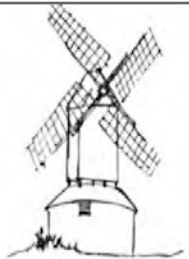
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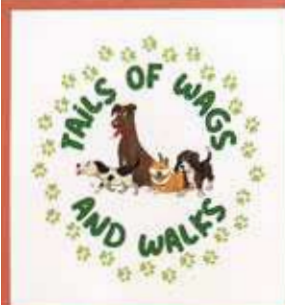
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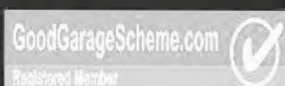
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Little Milton School	01844 279310	Sarah Sandys-Clarke Head of School
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MUGA	Bookings for the courts are made at the Post Office	
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Newsletter	01844 279150	Raymond Fergusson (Editor)
OCC	01865 792422	All enquiries
Parish Council	01844 278180 01844 875635	Francois Van der Merwe (Chair) Andrea Oughton (Clerk)
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