

CASSINGTON & WORTON NEWS

News and views from the parish of Cassington and Worton

June 2018 (#492)

... visit our village website ... www.wospweb.com/site/Cassington-Online ...



Sweet Child

Where to begin with the latest production to emerge from the Dream-On Youth Theatre? The ambition of all concerned, to bring to our attentions something that far too many are ready to turn away from? Or the creativity, maturity and professionalism of the cast and crew? Mental health issues in teenagers (and indeed in us all) manifest themselves in many ways, with the causal agents often a cocktail of pressures and anxieties. The cast and crew captured this cocktail with skill and sensitivity; stirring and not shaking their audience in a thought-provoking way. We have no doubt that this will have been a tough script to write, develop and deliver, with the cast bringing their own interpretations and experiences to the fore to give this sensitive issue the treatment it deserves. For that alone you are all to be applauded.

The story-line centred around the lives of a group of teenagers, their relationships with each other, their families and the ways in which society perceives and treats those of us with mental health issues. At the heart of the play we find big brother Axl and younger sister Rose, (Elliot Bolton and Lucy Bayliss), who unfortunately has a rare form of psychosis which manifests itself in the form of voices only she can hear, and friends only she can see. Key to the story-line was the relationship between Axl and Rose, who gave us sibling love, adoration, confusion and protection in equal measure. The family unit was completed by Mum Donna and Dad Vernon (Lorna Petty and Jason Pickering) who expertly portrayed love and devotion on the one hand, with denial and deceit on the other.

Throughout the play Roses' psychosis results in behaviours which bring out a variety of negative reactions from her peers and their parents – an expertly portrayed toxic blend of skulduggery, frustration, anger and bullying. Here the cast really shone with all too believable performances from Trixie and Tyrone Hughes (Tabitha Tingle and Ben Bakewell) – the mother and son you wished you didn't know but unfortunately do! Add to this the tightly-knit,

yet equally self-centred "friendship" group of Evie, Isla, Wanda, Kelly (Matilda Bishop, Amelia Brown, Stephanie McNeil, Anna Clutterbuck) and empathetic Janice (Agatha Gennissel), working in unison with Yanis, Oli, Andy, Ryan, Eddie, Freddie & Jason (Richard Petty, Aiden Buckner, Jack Cook, Tom Bartrip, Tom Brown and Joe Ferrier and Ben Robson), and we have a unit primed to concoct the all too familiar prejudices and misunderstandings mental health tends to engender in far too much of society. Throw in a femme fatale in the shape of Ava Dodds (Sasha Constance) to lure the already confused Vernon from his paternal responsibilities for good measure, and we complete our vision of society's take on mental health. To somewhat counter this rather challenging collection of individuals we were treated to some really touching moments from Roses' imaginary friends, Philip and Mark, (Danny Humphris and Aiden Mills) who provided the narrative to help her make sense of it all, bringing a lighter component to the storyline.

As always, the script writing and production of Mandy, Rich and their team played to the strengths of the cast, yet still challenged them every step of the way. For those of us who regularly watch this theatre group it was particularly refreshing to see individuals taking on very different roles from their previous ones. Special mention here to Stephanie McNeil and Amelia Brown who gave a very accomplished rendition of Coldplay's "Fix You" – never an easy thing to sing/play live to a full house! Upon conclusion, the audience was brought up to speed at the end of the play via a really well-crafted short film from Agatha Gennissel, portraying the characters in a lively epilogue. Thanks to Hannah and Rich for the set, stage manager Ella and her crew, brother Alexander, for making it all happen, Aaron and Zoe for the tunes and filming, and not forgetting the front of house/bar girls for keeping us all in check, and our glasses full. Finally – big thanks to Lorna Mills for all she does for the Dream On guys and to Sara Bolton for organising a collection for "Oxfordshire Mind" – collecting an impressive £165 for this worthy cause.

CS&SC

Contributions should be provided by 20th of the month. Email submissions (in the body or as a Word attachment) to: cawneditor@gmail.com. Photographs should be supplied as separate attachments, not placed in the Word file. Typed or clearly handwritten submissions may be posted to: Kevin Burroughs, 5 Hollow Furlong, Cassington, OX29 4ET. We look forward to hearing from you.

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The Three Musketeers

Swashbuckling japes were in abundance as Dream Between presented their first full production, 'The Three Musketeers' to packed audiences in the Village Hall between 11th-13th May 2018. The colours were quite literally on the wall, thanks to Candida Rogers' amazing backdrop, and we were soon transported to the court of Louis XIII in 17th Century France.

A play by Karen Letts, with sophisticated plot twists and language, and extra parts written by the ever energetic and creative pen of Mandy Constance, as well as sound effects and soundtrack masterfully timed by Rich Constance, meant that the extensive cast excelled themselves. The audience ooh'd, ahhh'd and boo'd their way through the comic retelling of the Dumas classic, with time enough for the statutory raffle at the interval! Action packed! (And of course Minstrels amongst the prizes!)

The four mighty minstrels Thomas, Zoe, Freya and Maia kept us on track with the plot, revealing potential frays, and love interests. Harry as Porthos, had an eye for the ladies, as Shannon and Amelia, as Athos and Aramis respectively, kept him in check. Santi's D'Artagnan won them over, and the L plate representing a musketeer in training didn't last

long! The same could not be said for the amusingly shoddy swordsmanship of King Louis' guards, James, Joban, Jake and Oli, who cut fine figures of young men in their red finery, but purposely lacked the cutting edge of real swashbuckling heroes.

Weeping, lovesick maidens and romantic heroines were in abundance however, even if Seren's character Constance Bonacleux was greeted with 'bless you' for much of the performance - it is hay fever season after all! Eve, Queen Anne, coped admirably, both with the unwanted attentions of The Duke of Buckingham, James, and with her inattentive husband King Louis of France, Daniel Ferrier, who had the ushering of his staff down to an alarmingly impressive turn of his wrist!

Scarlett, Madame Coquenard, put in some exhausting laps chasing Porthos and the Duke of Buckingham, whilst Eva running 'The Cafe Down The Road' was less exhausted but had no luck, drinking the poison ('what about health and safety') resulting in her tragic end.

The Machiavellian Cardinal Richelieu in cahoots with Erin, Milady D'Winter, plotted deviously to steal the queen's diamonds and sully her name, but the plot failed! Hurrah! 'All for one and one for all'. And in truth, that is a perfect mantra to encapsulate the strength of the group all round. Well done to one and all x

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Invisible Threat Hangs Over Cassington

Gazing out of my kitchen window, I see fields bright yellow with oil seed rape, green fields of unripe corn, and on the horizon trees meeting a clear blue sky. Cow parsley completes a timeless pastoral scene. And then -- reality.

On Friday 27 April 2018, from under these fields, the centre of Cassington was flooded yet again. The cause of this was the rupture of one of the two parallel Thames Water pipes that run from Farmoor Reservoir, eventually serving Banbury. These pipes pass under the fields of Purwell Farm, crossing underneath the well-trodden footpath that goes up the hill, about 600 metres from the little gate at the bottom. They are enormous, 24 inches each in diameter, each capable of dispensing tens of thousands of gallons of water per minute, rapidly inundating large parts of the village when they fail. Such a failure occurred previously, in almost the same place, on 20 December 2013 when the deluge was even more serious, extending past the Red Lion, to the church and the alms houses, and down Mill Lane. For several hours, water cascaded down the hill. About ten houses were flooded. Some people had to move out and it took months for things to be put right.

These were not isolated incidents. The same huge pipe has failed several other times in this vicinity in recent years. You may remember the road from Cassington to Bladon being closed



after a further rupture soon after the 2013 flood, and more recently Thames Water were installed in the farmyard for a month at the beginning of this year while they fixed a leak up in the field near the A40 that had been running for months and wasting millions of gallons (that we ultimately pay for).

On a personal note, I arrived home at midnight on 1 May 2018 from holiday to find that my house had been affected for a second time. The floors were wet all along the farmyard side of the house so that books and furniture had to be moved, carpets rolled back, wardrobe emptied, cupboards under the stairs and kitchen sink emptied, in order to accommodate industrial dehumidifiers and fans that would create a constant din over the coming weeks while drying took place. When this happens the house is a total tip, you can't find anything, and it's hard to concentrate or sleep with the noise. Vast amounts of time and energy are spent dealing with all the companies involved in sorting out the problem, being put on hold and passed from pillar to post. This is all tremendously stressful as well as time-consuming. Imagine it happening to someone very old or infirm.

What can we do about this ongoing threat? At least one of the pipes is clearly no longer fit for purpose. I understand that they are of the old cast iron type, further compromised by the increase in water pressure needed to serve more and more new homes. We now need to exert our pressure on Thames Water to insist that they take measures to protect the village, either by replacing instead of repairing the faulty pipes above Cassington, or by creating diversions away from houses for any leaking water.

The Parish Council will take the lead in this campaign by complaining about the situation to Thames Water and canvassing the support of our MP and Blenheim Estate who own the land through which the pipes pass. **If a petition is drawn up demanding action from Thames Water, please support the village by signing it.** We must hope that Blenheim will also press for an urgent solution since they are about to start building ten new houses (the so-called Manor Farm development) right in the path of these two recent destructive floods. If nothing is done, the new houses will surely be blighted along with those others in our village affected by past incidents. It is wrong that Thames Water can get away with wreaking such havoc and do absolutely nothing to mitigate the long-term threat that hangs over us. If they continue to do nothing, common sense tells us that sooner or later Cassington will be flooded again.

Della Thompson, 14 May 2018

welcome

Kevin's CAWner

The dangers of consensus -
An very edited essay by Charlan Nemeth

Many research studies as well as management books argue for the importance of harmony and cohesion –and consensus. We should get along, engage in teamwork, and bond with one another. We should all be on the 'same page'. Such goals are comforting, we recruit, socialise and reward consensus while punishing dissent. There are benefits to consensus and like-mindedness, including high morale, a sense of identity and the execution of a vision.

But, as the image of "cult-like" suggests, there are perils.

Most people are aware of the power of a majority to get people to follow. But beware the power of an unchallenged majority to 'bend reality', to get us to believe things that are not true, to not think at all. We blindly follow the majority whether it is right or wrong. It narrows the way we think about the issue, we are unable to detect other solutions irrespective of whether the majority position is true or false. We start to think from the perspective of the majority only. It becomes a form of self-brainwashing, and conspire to make people silent when they see a problem or when they have a better solution.

Till next month - happy reading.
Kevin

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With special thanks to...

Lorna Mills (Accountant), Fineprint Witney (Printer),
Clare Want and her team (Distributor) and to everyone
who actively participates in the production of Cassington &
Worton Newsletter.



BIKE NIGHT Monday 25th June Marshals Wanted

If you can spare an hour or two on the night to keep bikes moving and pedestrians safe please email dan.bakewell@googlemail.com. No experience needed, please do help if you can, it does feel great to be a part of it.

Marshal Briefing Evening - Tuesday 12th June

If you would like to know a little more about marshalling, please come along to our Marshal Briefing Evening on Tuesday 12th June, 7.30pm in the Pavilion at the Playing Fields.

Don't worry if you can't make the 12th but can still marshal on Bike Night itself, we'd love your help and a full safety briefing will be provided on the day.
Cassington Bike Night Committee



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Bible Study Groups meet throughout the week,
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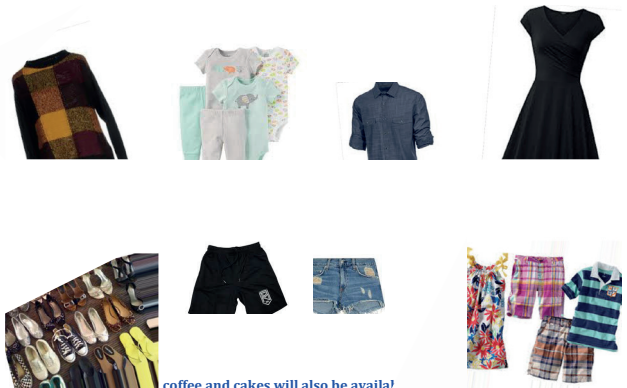
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Benjamin Britten – War Requiem

Saturday, 23rd June, 7.00pm
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Burford Singers English Arts Chorale
Bristol Cathedral Choristers Soprano: Linda Richardson
Tenor : James Gilchrist Bass : Quentin Hayes
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As 2018 marks the centenary of the end of the First World War, The Burford Singers are combining forces with the distinguished Surrey-based English Arts Chorale and the

choristers of Bristol Cathedral in performing this landmark work. An earlier performance will take place on 9th June in Winchester Cathedral.

Full details at www.war-requiem2018.org.uk

Reserved seats: £32, £26, £15 - Full time students and under 18s -half price; carers for disabled audience members – free of charge.

Burford Singers website <http://www.burfordingers.org.uk>

Online booking will be available from April 6th to June 22nd, via a link on the website above. The Burford Singers Box Office at the Mad Hatter Bookshop, High Street, Burford will be open from April 6th to June 21st.

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Resurrection and all that stuff

Do you believe in an "afterlife"? It certainly is a key Christian doctrine.

An historic statement of faith is recited weekly by congregations in Church of England services where we declare together (amongst other things) a belief in resurrection after death (in some bodily form) and continuing existence for ever. What do you believe?

I was recently reminded of an imaginary conversation (below) of twins in the womb:

Twin one: Tell me, do you believe in life after birth?

Twin two: Of course. After birth comes life. Perhaps we are here to prepare for what comes after birth.

Twin one: Forget it! After birth there is nothing! From there, no one has returned! And besides, what would it look like?

Twin two: I don't know exactly, but I feel that there are lights everywhere ... Perhaps we walk on our own feet, and eat with our mouth.

Twin one: This is utterly stupid! Walking isn't possible! And how can we eat with that ridiculous mouth? Can't you see the umbilical cord? And for that matter, think about it for a second: postnatal life isn't possible because the cord is too short.

Twin two: Yes, but I think there is definitely something, just in a different way than what we call life.

Twin one: You're stupid. Birth is the end of life and

that's it.

Twin two: I do not know exactly what will happen, but Mother will help us...

Twin one: The Mother? Do you believe in "The Mother"?!

Twin two: Well - yes.

Twin one: Don't be ridiculous! Have you seen the Mother anywhere? Has anyone seen her at all?

Twin two: No, but she is all around us. We live within her. And certainly, it is thanks to her that we exist.

Twin one: Well, now leave me alone with this stupidity, right? I'll believe in Mother when I see her.

Twin two: You can't see her, but if you're quiet, you can hear her song, you can feel her love. If you're quiet, you can feel her caress and you will feel her protective hands.

The imaginary conversation is quite clever and amusing. However, whether it is convincing in the argument for resurrection is another thing. St Paul writing his first of two letters to early Christians in Corinth gives a much fuller and developed argument. You can read it for yourself in 1 Corinthians chapter 15 (pages 195-197 in the Jubilee New Testaments given to every house in the village at the Queen's Diamond Jubilee)

Revd Roger Aston

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Green Gym (and Cake)

Ian Finlay

What has been your prior experiences of going to the gym? Perhaps it's been paying out several hundreds of pounds in membership fees and then after initial enthusiasm feeling guilty about how that money might have been spent more usefully. Or perhaps again it's driving through frustrating Oxfordshire traffic and arriving with stress already at heart attack levels before you even start to raise your blood pressure further. Then, oh, that memorable odour; stale sweat overlaid with 'Lynx Africa' deodorant! Inevitably, your favourite piece of equipment is currently being used and you are third in the queue so off you wander to the piece that nobody enjoys. Finally, you get onto the rowing machine and, as you view the bottoms of those on the steppers, you contemplate the limitations of 'Lycra'.

One of the first events that Kath and I attended since we moved to the village in January, was the Sports and Social Club Open Day. I was immediately impressed by two things. First was the abundance of cake. I have always felt that healthy living must be accompanied by a healthy scepticism of puritan attitudes towards cake. Second was the Green Gym. Two representatives of the company that installed the gym were on hand to demonstrate each piece of equipment. I tried out each

piece. Unusually, for outdoor equipment, relevant pieces are fitted with hydraulic arms the resistance of which can be adjusted. This means that not only can one do more reps or do them faster, but one can also build strength by increasing the resistance (just like adding more weights to lifting equipment).

Now my weekly routine involves walking the length of the village to the sports field three or four times, spending some time on the Green Gym equipment then walking home again picking up a paper on the way. My preferred time is between 6.30 and 8.30am. I miss out rainy days although I do take a big hankie to dry dew from the seat of the arm exerciser. The view is amazing. The air is fresh. I am happy being on my own, but company would not be unwelcome. The only piece of equipment that has so far foiled me is the 'Chin-ups/Dips' Frame. It's been many a long year since my arms could support my body weight – and that brings us back to cake.

Cassington has this wonderful facility which was obtained through grant funding. It is here to help us to live fuller and fitter lives. I am glad that we arrived in the village just as the Green Gym opened.

Note: I am building up very gradually and encourage anyone using the equipment to seek advice on a programme suitable for their age and physical condition. It's easy to over exercise especially at the start and end up with injuries.

Roy's ramblings

June 2018

Once again I am struggling – so much going through my mind... Thank you Kevin for your first class CAWNER. I HOPE FOLK READ IT AND CONTEMPLATE IT.

When I see the Parish Council has got to employ someone to trim the trees on The Green, surely there is someone in the village who could do this. I did it when I mowed The Green – you don't have to be a specialist – just a bit of common sense like trimming round the base of trees down Conse Lane. I had a good helper who did this for me... but enough of the moans.

Thank you also Stephen Wright for a very interesting discussion on a lot of subjects. You can imagine all I know about the all the technical stuff now would fit on a postage stamp! I would love to meet you some time – come down to the Mill, let's have a chat.

Thank you also to Roger [Aston] For The Lord IS My Shepherd – a very interesting story about Hea Woo... It does not seem right to say "story" because it is far from a story, it is a fact of life. We don't know how lucky we are. The problem with this world is how things can change, very gradually, until "bang" and the impossible has happened. When I see people slipping away from the Christian faith, when something else takes over, they will all be amazed and will not like it. But that discussion is probably not appropriate for the CAWN.

What a lovely sunny day as I write. The sun sparkles on the river. I have not seen the King Fisher lately, we have no swallows in the garage or Yellow Wagtails in the Mill wall. They all seem to have deserted us, the spell of rough weather seemed to stop them.

Will close now, don't forget your prayer for the day. The Peace of God be with you all.

Roy Partridge

the Telephone Preference Service

The Telephone Preference Service (TPS) is a free service. It is the official central opt out register on which you can record your preference not to receive unsolicited sales or marketing calls. It is a legal requirement that all organisations (including charities, voluntary organisations and political parties) do not make such calls to numbers registered on the TPS unless they have your consent to do so.

Organisations with which you have an ongoing relationship, for example those who regard you as a customer, (or in the case of charities - a donor) may well gather your consent during the early stages of your relationship with them and will therefore be entitled to call you even if your number is registered on TPS, unless you have previously told them specifically that you object to them calling you for marketing purposes.

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June news from The Oxfordshire Museum



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E: oxonmuseum@oxfordshire.gov.uk

T: 01993 814106

Entry to the museum and exhibitions are free of charge ☺

Peter Rabbit – Mischief & Mayhem Exhibition **16 June – 8 September**

Peter Rabbit hops, skips and jumps right of the page in this interactive exhibition about Beatrix Potter's most famous creation. Discover original illustrations and memorabilia and see how she turned her mischievous bunny into an international celebrity and have fun and games with your favourite characters in the children's activity room.

Reminiscence Sessions: 1 June, 2-3:30pm – Gardens & Gardening

Those were the days – do you remember...

A monthly group for people to meet, reminisce about the past, bring photos and objects and share memories.

£1 per person includes tea or coffee,
for further details contact T: 01865 300639

Friends of The Oxfordshire Museum Monthly Talk **6 June, 7.30pm - Lesley Dunlop, Geo-Conservation**

Times of contrast – a geological perspective of Oxfordshire in the Jurassic and Quaternary. (This meeting also includes the AGM)

Friends of the museum free, visitors £4

W: Friendsoftom.co.uk

Dragon Boat Festival with Snowflake Books

23 June, 2-4pm

Chinese themed crafts based on the Dragon Boat Festival and joining in with the Woodstock Carnival.

For more details please visit: www.snowflakebooks.co.uk

Community Education at the Marlborough School, Woodstock

By Celia Clark, Coordinator

We held our last Saturday workshops on the day of the Royal Wedding. In the glorious weather, the archery group were able to go outside to try 'up archery': shooting a steeper trajectory to get the arrows into a bucket. And in just the space of the morning, I was impressed with how John Somerscales took the African drumming group from basic single beats to complex cross-rhythms, making full use of the different sounds the drums make.

There will be opportunities for you to join in both of these workshops again next academic year, along with all our other weekly and Saturday courses. The 2018/19 programme is being put together right now, and copies of our new brochure will be available from mid-July. Whilst we deliver to many local homes, if you would like to guarantee getting a preview copy, please contact us. A reminder that you can still join our exercise classes as they run to the end of July. We have space on Thursday day time classes at present: yoga, pilates and Zumba Gold. Please get in touch if you are interested.

If you would like to receive a free copy of our new brochure or to book a place on any of the above courses please make contact

Marlborough C of E School, Community Education

Tel: 01993 813592

Amateur radio enthusiasts celebrate Marconi Day at museum



(Picture shows Brian Hawes, a Cassington resident)

CHILDREN and parents turned out and tuned in to help transform one of Oxford's museums into an amateur radio station.

The Museum of the History of Science at Broad Street became a pop-up communications hub for the day on Saturday. Together with the Oxford and District Amateur Radio Society, the museum invited youngsters and their families to celebrate the birth of radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi at the free educational day.

Mr Marconi was an Italian inventor and electrical engineer who was known for his work on long-distance radio transmission as well as his development of 'Marconi's law' – the relation between antenna heights and signalling distance of radio transmissions. He also developed a radio telegraph system.

Participants of all ages at the weekend event were invited to sample old technology used to transmit information and to send out signals to fellow amateur radio enthusiasts.

The group were also shown how to send their own message in **Morse Code**.

Oxfordshire, 09 May 2018

Put your best foot forward and step back in time

Runners, walkers and cyclists will have several opportunities this summer to follow a 5,000 year old path through Oxfordshire and raise money for local charities.

There's very few places where you can literally take a step back in time and tread a path that has remained vibrant and important for five millennia.

But the Ridgeway National Trail, which winds its way through Oxfordshire, the North Wessex Downs and the Chilterns, allows you to do just that.

Following a route used since prehistoric times by travellers, herdsmen and soldiers, the 87 mile long Ridgeway passes through ancient landscapes which were once home to hillforts, through downland, secluded valleys and woodland. As well as being steeped in history the route will take you to numerous attractive villages and vibrant market towns.

Oxfordshire County Council is the host authority for the Ridgeway National Trail team and provides an excellent base to manage the trail from as well as other support service and opportunities for partnership working.

Amazing things right on your doorstep

As Ridgeway Trail officer Sarah Wright explains: "We are lucky to have a National Trail nearby – there are only 15 in England

and Wales. As a signposted and accessible trail, it is a way to explore the countryside with confidence.

"Of course once they've walked a bit of it and seen the historic monuments, wildlife and amazing views across the vales, people get hooked and come back time and time again.

"Although the trail's origins go back 5,000 years it's as relevant to life today as it was to the very first people to travel along it.

"And if you haven't tried the trail for yourself – maybe you didn't know about it or thought it wasn't for you – there's a whole list of reasons to give it a try.

"A long-distance trail might seem overwhelming, but you don't need to do it all. You can do short sections and the changing seasons and variety along the Trail means you can look forward to something different."

Visitors to the trail will see far-reaching views across the hills and vales, and find many archaeological monuments including Stone Age long barrows, Bronze Age round barrows, Iron Age forts and the famous Uffington white horse cut into the chalk hillside.

East of the Thames, The Ridgeway travels through the more-wooded and intimate hills and valleys of the Chilterns AONB where, as well as further archaeological treasures, there are several nature reserves rich with special flowers and insects. The Chilterns section also passes close to or through several villages and towns where walkers can stop off for a refreshments or a place to stay overnight.

Take a walk on the wildlife side on this Oxfordshire riverside route

Thames Path

NATIONAL TRAIL



Spring has now officially sprung in Oxfordshire and with it come buds, blooms, birds and blue skies.

There's many places you can visit in the county to see some original and inspiring sights and, if you want to take a more structured wander through Oxfordshire, the Thames Path National Trail could be the answer.

The greatest river in England

The Thames Trail follows the greatest river in England for 184 miles from its source in the Cotswold hills to the sea. Passing through peaceful water meadows, unspoilt rural villages, historical towns and cities, and finally through the heart of London to end at the Thames Barrier in Greenwich.

A large proportion of the trail goes through Oxfordshire from the most rural West Oxfordshire, through the busy city of Oxford via historic Wallingford to the home of the renowned regatta in Henley-on-Thames.

Life and colour emerge

At this time of year you will start to see new life and new colour emerge as Steven Tabbitt, Thames Trail manager, explains: "The winter flood waters have subsided now which bring nutrient rich silt which helps the wild flowers to bloom on the unspoilt water meadows of Oxfordshire and beyond.

"If you are very lucky you may also see an otter or water vole on the river too. Both are very shy in the wild but it's not unheard of to see, also listen out for the piping sounds of the kingfisher as they become more active and are easier to spot their iridescent blue flashes as they dart along the river looking for suitable nesting sites and diving into the river for fish.

"May is just round the corner and that is a good time to see the Mayflies rising out of the river which also heralds the return of Terns who travel up the Thames.

"Even in the city of Oxford the Thames brings its

own wildlife and right now you will see ducklings and signets starting out their lives."

Carving a gap through the Chiltern hills

The Thames Trail path continues on to the Vale of White Horse area, it carves a gap through the Chiltern hills near Goring until finally exiting Oxfordshire in Henley-on-Thames.

"With a total of 68 miles of Thames Path National Trail in Oxfordshire, it has the largest river frontage of any other county, with it passing through all of Oxfordshire's Countys Districts, there really is lots to see and do all along its route, and we have a fantastic volunteer hub within Oxfordshire's reaches. If you enjoy the trail – come and volunteer with us to help maintain and keep it open!

"And if nature isn't your thing then you may be interested in the various pubs and restaurants that are dotted along the route. Even if your walk only takes you as far as the nearest beer garden it's still worthwhile!"

The Thames Path Partnership is made up of all the Highway Authorities and other organisations and user groups with a vested interest in the Trail such as The River Thames Society, The Ramblers, Cycling UK through to Transport for London and the Port of London Authority, arguably the most important member of the Partnership is Oxfordshire County Council who as the host authority provides an excellent base to manage the trail from as well as other support services and further opportunities for partnership working.

To find out more about the Thames Path visit:

<https://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/thames-path>



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Oxford Salvage Ltd have been trading since 1995. Set in 2 acres, with warehouse storage, we are able to offer some of the largest stocks of reclaimed building materials in the county and also stock many architectural antique items including victorian fireplaces, surrounds, doors and much more. We can also

Observation by Stephen Wright

I had a moment last month when I worried how I would ever achieve anything in life when I came to the painful realisation that I had just poured sugar on my chips instead of salt.

That moment aside, it has been a nice time of year to live in Bournemouth over the last few weeks. Nature finally decided to bless us with some regular sunshine, which meant I could show everyone how 'warm' the sea is as I shivered back to my towel. For someone as pale as me, I have the eternal dilemma of whether I'm willing to show off my pasty body to venture into the ocean. On this occasion the desire to swim (even though I always end up nearly drowning) outweighed the shame of displaying my non-tanned skin.

We also had a Eurovision BBQ, hosted by my house-mate Josh. We had to dress up as different countries, and I only had a garment vaguely resembling a Russian hat so I chose Putin's men. Of course, they got knocked out before the final so for me the Eurovision BBQ was just a BBQ featuring burned yet somehow un-cooked sausages. At least I can be satisfied with my contribution to the party, as we pegged up one of my bedsheets to project the video onto.

I also recently went to Burnley for the final Premier League game of the season which was against Bournemouth. I was going as part

of the press but took the supporter's coach with the fans because it was the cheapest option, but also probably the longest. We stopped at Warwick services where all the Brighton fans were also stopping on their way to Liverpool, as were the plastic, sorry, Southern United fans on their way to Manchester. Without traffic it took us about six hours to get there but I was delighted to taste the press food when I arrived. I felt quite smug when Bournemouth won 2-1 but couldn't really celebrate as I was surrounded by Burnley employees.

I must not forget to mention the generosity shown by Mrs. Ake, partner of Bournemouth centre-back Nathan, who gave me and my colleague a box of Hotel Chocolat chocolates on the final home game of the season for our work at the ground throughout the year. She gave me The Beer Collection variant, which of course is very nice. With my father's birthday coming up, I thought I would buy a couple of the individual items from that collection for him. It would also double up as an opportunity to check out the Hotel Chocolat store in Westgate Oxford so I could be very rude and see how much a Premier League footballer and his wife spent on me. £27.50, as it turns out.

As the curtain closed on another football season, I felt a tinge of sadness to no longer have weekly matches to look forward to. We all know England won't get very far in World Cup, even if they are in a group with Belgium, John West, and a song by Van Halen.

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS - THURSDAY, 3RD MAY 2018

Electoral Division	Candidates	Party	Votes	Electorate & % Poll
Eynsham and Cassington	Elsa Louise Dawson	Labour	383	4826 44.61%
	Helen Gavin	Green	102	
	Abdul Mubin	Conservative	604	
	Carl Martin Rylett	Liberal Democrats	1062 Elected	

Thank you to everyone in Cassington who cast a vote on 3rd May. I very much look forward to representing the village, and working to get the voices of local residents heard at District Council level.

It was a pleasure to speak to so many residents of the village during the election campaign. The most common concerns raised on the doorstep were housing, the A40 and potholes, but a variety of other subjects were also mentioned. One thing is for certain - the next couple of years will be a busy time with many decisions to be made about housing and infrastructure in the local area.

The work, I've been told, will be very varied, from dealing with individual residents' matters to larger issues such as development plans. At council I have joined the Lowlands Area Planning Sub-Committee and the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. My priority will be to help try to preserve the area's special character, putting people's quality of life above growth and development for its own sake.

Potholes, as other transport issues, is a matter for Oxfordshire County Council, as opposed to West Oxfordshire District Council, but the raising of the issue so often during the election, I believe, has forced decision makers to take it more seriously. Oxfordshire Liberal Democrats have long argued in Council for proper investment in fixing potholes. Not only is this a worthy cause for spending money, as evidenced by the current appalling state of the roads, but money spent upfront on newer technology, such as Dragon patching machine, could even save money in the long term.

If you have any questions or issues you would like to raise please do get in touch with me at

carl.rylett@westoxon.gov.uk

**Best Regards
Cllr Carl Rylett
District Councillor
for Eynsham and Cassington**

Cassington W.I.

This months meeting was small but but nonetheless enjoyable culminating with the sharing of Di William's birthday cake which was delicious.

However the meeting was tinged with sadness as we spent a few minutes to remember Megan Humphris who died suddenly last Monday. She was one of the longest serving members of Cassington W.I. and was a fountain of knowledge both of W.I.procedure and of Oxford life. She will be greatly missed for her input over the years, not to mention her apple pies! We send our condolences to her family.

Next month the meeting will be on 21st June when Jo Ripley who hails from Eynsham will give us a talk on how she started her business making,repairing and re-designing jewellery and of course she will have some for sale.

After this meeting we will be baking cakes,bakes and preparing for Bike Night.

Maggie Nightingale
20.04.2018

CHURCH FLOWERS

If anyone, who feels they would like to do Church Flowers during the year can write their name on a list, which is now on the notice board in the Church Porch. A two week 'stint' is ideal as flowers and foliage tend to last in the cool Church. It would be very much appreciated if we could have more volunteers throughout the year.

Any queries, please contact Liz Henman
on 01865 881303

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SUNDAY MASS is at 10.00am with a Children's Liturgy during Mass and SATURDAY for Sunday at 5.00pm

Mass also Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays at 9.30am, Wednesdays & Thursdays at 10.00am

(Times are changed occasionally and announced on the preceding Sunday)

THE PARISH PRIEST : Father Mark Lagorio is happy to receive enquiries by phone on 01865 881613 or email stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com

The Retired Priest : Father Martin Flatman is available on 07719 646790 or email fmartinflatman@gmail.com

BIBLE STUDY after Mass on Wednesdays.
ADORATION after Mass on Fridays.

THE CHURCH is open for prayer during daylight hours at Abbey Street, Eynsham, OX29 4HR.

THE HALL (The Tolkien Room) is available for hire with a lovely outside area where people can sit or walk, and children can play. To book contact the Parish priest as above.

OUR BIG EVENT in JUNE is our part in the Eynsham Open Gardens Weekend on Saturday & Sunday 9/10th June. We lay on Teas in our Tolkien Room which usually means people (weather permitting!) sitting out on the Terrace with great views across towards Wytham Woods. From here, there is the Meadow to explore, partly on the Site of Eynsham Abbey and the big garden with lots of trees and shrubs to walk round with tinkling bells and water features. Children love it! Enter at any time between 2pm and 4pm on either day and the Programme you receive gains you entry to all the other Eynsham Gardens open on both days.

THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI on Sunday 3rd June is our annual celebration of the gift that Jesus gave us of himself in the consecrated bread and wine that we call Holy Communion. This will be extra special this year as we are looking forward to a visit from our Archbishop of Birmingham the Most Reverend Bernard Longley on this day, when he will confirm some of our young people.



Eynsham's Amateur Dramatic Group

www.bartholomewplayers.co.uk

bart.players@gmail.com

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Visit our **website**: www.bartholomewplayers.co.uk

or our **facebook page**: Bartholomew Players

or **e-mail us**: bart.players@gmail.com

or call Denise Santilli, Publicity Officer on 07721 744020

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www.churchfieldscarehome.co.uk

ST PETER'S CHURCH CASSINGTON

*The Church of St. Peter's is here as a fellowship to worship God,
build people up in Christ and share his love with others*

The church is open daily as a place of quiet and escape from everyday pressures.

JUNE 2018

There is usually a service of Holy Communion on Tuesdays at 9.30am
Prayers at 12 noon on Thursdays.

The church bells will usually be rung between 9.30-10am prior to the 10am service
Practice night is on Thursdays between 7pm and 8pm.

Sunday 3 June

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am St Peter's Together

A monthly celebration suitable for all ages, bringing together the church congregations, St Peter's School and the community.

Sunday 10 June

10am Holy Communion

Revd Chris Sugden

(Preacher: Margaret Thornton)

Father's Day

Sunday 17 June

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

Revd Duncan Fraser

10am NO service

11am Combined Churches Baptism Service at Cassington Mill

2.15pm Father's Day at Churchfields Nursing Home

Sunday 24 June

10am Morning Worship

Revd Andrew Atherstone

6pm Evening Prayer

Mike Madden

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of the late Frank Nelson took place in St Peter's Church on Tuesday 15 May 2018.



TINIERS & TODDLERS

11th, 18th, 25th June

A Parent/Carer & Toddler group in Cassington Village Hall

10.00-11.30am (term-time)

Toys, crafts, songs & refreshments for under-fives and their carers.

The group is being run by St Peter's Church in partnership with local parents

Contact details:

Vicar – Revd Duncan Fraser Tel: 07810324088 email: vicar@stleonardsandstpeters.church

Associate Curate – Revd Roger Aston Tel: 01865 880757 email: rogera52@aol.com

Children & Families Worker – Carmen Fraser Tel: 07867675594 email: cf@stleonardsandstpeters.church

Youth Worker: Olly Shaw email: youth.stleonards@gmail.com blog: <http://stleonardsyouth.blogspot.co.uk>
web site www.stleonardsyouth.co.uk

Enquiries including weddings, baptisms and funerals:

Church Administrator: Jan Macdonald – Mon-Thurs 9am-1pm Tel: 01865 883325

email stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com

Parish Council News

May 2018

Horsemere Lane Closure

A meeting with residents and the Parish Council has been arranged with OCC to formulate a plan to close the lane.

Speed watch

Speed Watch continues.

War Memorial

The Parish Council have sent a copy of the lowest quote for the work to the Commission for a grant

Neighbourhood watch.

Our watchers continue to work with the police to good effect.

Benches on the Green.

The Parish Council have purchased three new benches. It is hoped that the benches will soon be put in place and commemorated with plaques.

Trees on the Green

The Parish Council are getting reports from specialists to see what pruning is necessary.

Beech Hedge in the cemetery

The Parish Council have planned now to get the hedge trimmed on the 26th May.

Defibrillator at the Village Hall

Residents are reminded where it is located. The Parish Council have discovered that seems to be a lack of coordination with the Ambulance service. We are currently trying to find out how the Ambulance service coordinates the use of the Defibrillator in an emergency.

Council Elections

4 Existing Councillors were unopposed. The Parish Council have coopted Mr Dave Butlin to fill the vacant space.

Planning Application at Alan Aston, Bell Lane
The Parish Council have viewed the proposal and recorded no objections.

Watermain flooding

The Parish Council are coordinating a response to Thames Water requesting a report on the 24" diameter watermain that run across the fields above the village. The recent flooding through Manor Farm yard was the second recent event.

In this issue of CAWN you will see an appeal by one of our residents. We would ask that you support this appeal. This main could fracture at any point in the future and affect your property.

N.B Clerk contact details

Email cassingtonclerk@gmail.com

Tel 01993 622750.

Parish Council meeting for June will be 7th June 2018 at 7.30pm at the Village hall

Hugh Thomas
Chairman, Cassington Parish Council
18 May 2018


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New to Worton Park:

The Poolside Pantry is a cafe and coffee shop offering a selection of hot and cold foods with a focus on foods being healthy and locally sourced. Serving artisan coffee, roasted locally in Witney by UE Coffee Roasters.

WORTONPARK.CO.UK

01865 882644 info@wortonpark.co.uk

Cassington, then and now

A Cassington resident has suggested a new feature for CAWN. Many readers will be familiar with the Cassington Then and Now page on Facebook but for those who don't have access we thought it would be nice to share some old village scenes in the newsletter.

Here's the second in our new series taken from the Facebook group of the 1967-68 Cassington Football team.

If you have an old photo and a story you would like to share, please send it to the editor at the usual address





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resident's pass
in your car?**

**Attached to
the back of the
printed edition**

Robert Courts MP - update

In May, I was pleased to have the opportunity to raise the issue of the A40 with none other than the Prime Minister, Theresa May. During Prime Minister's Questions, I highlighted the need for improvements to the A40, upgrades to the Cotswold Line, and an integrated transport structure to keep West Oxfordshire moving. The PM agreed that this is an "important issue", and was supportive of my plans to push for the necessary upgrades. A very encouraging response, indeed – and I will continue to push for the improvements we all want to see.

Furthermore, many of you have written to me about the importance of protecting our environment. This is one of the most pressing issues facing our generation, and it is – of course – a priority for me. I recently spoke in a debate on the 'Reduction of Plastic Waste in the Marine Environment', during which I was able to make the points that many of you have made to me. I am clear that we must do more to promote recycling, and ban the materials

and products that are so harmful to our environment. Indeed, the Government has already taken great strides in this matter; from banning microbeads, plastic straws, cotton buds and stirrers; implementing a 5p charge on plastic bags; and outlining our plans to roll out a state-of-the-art bottle deposit scheme. These are very welcome steps, but we must do more.

I am proud that the UK is a world-leader in this field, and I hope you will agree that the Environment Secretary's comprehensive 25-Year Environment Plan is especially encouraging. We have all had the battle between conscience and convenience; now more than ever, we must make the conscious choice convenient.

As ever, please do not hesitate to contact me at
robert@robertcourts.co.uk.

Thank you everyone for supporting Cassington Movies. We wish you all an enjoyable summer and we look forward to seeing you in the Autumn with a new selection of films

NEXT MOVIE NIGHT
first Friday in October 2018
 to be advised

Tickets £5 from Ruth 01865 883512. Bar and raffle.
 Doors open at 7pm and the film starts at 7.30pm.

Village contact list

- Allotments, Cassington..... 01993 882590
- Bartholomew School, Eynsham..... 01865 881430
- Church (to be advised), Cassington..... 01865 881323
- Chemist, Eynsham 01865 881283
- Dentist, Eynsham 01865 880047
- Fire Station, Eynsham 01865 881337
- Flooding, WODC 01993 861000
- Gas Leaks 0800 111 999
- Library, Eynsham 01865 880525
- Medical Centre, Eynsham 01865 881206
- Pest Control, WODC 01993 861060
- Play Area Repairs, Parish Council,
cassingtonclerk@gmail.com
- Red Lion, Cassington 01865 881371
- Sports Pavilion bookings (Graham Mills), Cassington,
cassingtonsport@millsclan.force9.co.uk
- St Peters School, Cassington 01865 880443
- The Chequers 01865 882620
- Waste Collection, WODC 01993 861020
- Village Hall bookingscassingtonvillagehall@gmail.com

Cassington, then and now

Interested to see how Cassington has evolved over the years? Or do you have any old photos of the village you wish to share? If so, search 'Cassington, then and now' on Facebook and feel free to join the group!



VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS



For information, and to book the Village Hall, contact:

Kathryn Teal, 07964 726843 or email
 cassingtonvillagehall@gmail.com

Don't forget ... When you book the Village Hall you can make use of our wireless broadband connection – ask Kathryn for details when you make your booking

cassingtonvillagehall.org.uk

Sports & Social Club

The MUGA pitch is now fully operational and is being used regularly. If you know of any teams that would be interested in hiring the pitch, please do put them in touch with Graham Mills (cassingtonsport@millsclan.force9.co.uk). The tennis season has now come to a close and the nets have been taken down but the MUGA can be booked for football or hockey training by emailing Graham.

General hire prices are as follows:

Pavilion £10 per hour.

Adult grass football pitch and pavilion
 £35 per game.

Cricket pitch and pavilion £50 per game.

Tennis court £10 per hour. (April to September)

MUGA £22 per hour .

We will keep you updated on our development plans but if you have any specific ideas, please email suzilewis42@gmail.com.

CAWN Advertising rates

Village events and fund-raising stuff is free. Simple local services, 'for sales' etc., are also free on the "noticeboard" page/section. However donations towards printing costs welcomed.

Suitable commercial businesses are invited to support our community by buying advertising space at the following rates:

- 1/8 page, £6 (£60 per year) (portrait)
- 1/4 page, £10 (£100 per year) (portrait)
- 1/2 page, £15 (£150 per year) (landscape)
- Full page, £25 (£250 per year) (portrait)

Technical details for artwork are available on request.

All material included at the discretion of CAWN. Any surplus will be passed to the Cassington Parochial Charities to support our community.


noticeboard

FOR LOCAL SERVICES, 'FOR SALE' OR SIMILAR NOTICES, PLEASE SEND COPY (BY EMAIL IDEALLY) TO THE USUAL ADDRESS. APPROPRIATE NOTICES ARE FREE, AND ARE PLACED AT OUR DISCRETION.

HATE IRONING?
Then Take It To Elsie
@ 15, Elms Road, Cassington
Tel. 01865 882168 for further details

PORTRAIT ARTIST 
Full time artist working from studio in Cassington.
Commission drawing/painting—any subject/ media, from life or photos.
email: amy@hemingwayart.co.uk
web: www.amyhemingway.com
tel: 01865 883991
GIFTS | WEDDINGS | BABY | FAMILY | PETS | HOME

Calling all Cassington mums, dads and carers
We would like to invite you to join our friendly local group on Facebook. Search for Cassington mums' group and send a request to join. It's a great way to meet new people, keep up-to-date with what's going on, and get involved in lots of fun social stuff too – both with and without the kids!
If anyone is new to the village and would like a friendly chat to introduce themselves and their families, feel free to contact Vicky (07917 403976; vickyt@pink-sky.co.uk) or Jess (07852187079; lefevrejessica@yahoo.com).

 Do you know there is a free service to Cassington residents that will take you to the doctors' surgeries at Eynsham or Long Hanborough?
Run by volunteers, this is available by phoning
Sheila Nelson on 880740 or Pat Vereker on 880693
Please give us as much notice as possible
Unfortunately we are now unable to offer transport to hospitals for routine outpatient appointments. For these please contact the patient transport number 0300 100 0015 or Volunteer Link Up 01993 776277

Need a babysitter?
I would be happy to help!
Just phone 01865 883545
Lorna Petty (16)
£5 an hour

FREE COTSWOLD STONE
I have a large pile of medium and large Cotswold stones surplus to requirements. Free to anybody who can use them. Would be suitable for building a rockery.
Please phone Della on 882584 to arrange collection.



Aunt Sally social 7th May 2018

As Editor I have heard many favourable comments about the Bank Holiday Aunt Sally introduction to the sport. The photographs show Luca Osgathorp receiving the cup for knocking 4 out of 6 Dolls off and winning the kids cup. All in all an enjoyable afternoon. It has been suggested in some forums that there just may enough youth interest to start a village youth league on a Saturday morning possibly – the dads and grand-dads are not keen to be shown up on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.....and anyway, they are school nights

Dates for your diary

Unless shown, events are in the Village Hall

June 2018

<u>Friday 1st, 7pm for 7:30pm</u>	Cassington Movies
<u>Monday 4th, 10 am - 12 noon</u>	Cassington Cafe
<u>Thursday 7th, 7:30pm</u>	Parish Council Meeting
<u>Sat 9th & Sun 10th</u>	Adult Dreams : The 39 Steps
<u>Thursday 21st, 7:30pm</u>	Cassington WI
<u>Monday 25th 4pm</u>	Cassington Bike Night

July 2018

<u>Monday 2nd, 10 am - 12 noon</u>	Cassington Cafe
<u>Thursday 5th, 7:30pm</u>	Parish Council Meeting
<u>Friday 6th, 7pm for 7:30pm</u>	No Cassington Movies
<u>Thursday 19th, 7:30pm</u>	Cassington WI

Tickets for films and shows from:
Ruth Bakewell (01865 883512)

Some United Nations International Days

1 June	Global Day of Parents (A/RES/66/292)
3 June	World Bicycle Day (A/RES/72/272)
5 June	World Environment Day (A/RES/2994 (XXVII))
8 June	World Oceans Day (A/RES/63/111)
14 June	World Blood Donor Day [WHO] (WHA Resolution 58.13)
15 July	World Youth Skills Day (A/RES/69/145)
18 July	Nelson Mandela International Day (A/RES/64/13)
30 July	International Day of Friendship (A/RES/65/275)

A village tradition

(A raffle with a difference)

Did you know every Saturday evening in the Red lion for the past 20+ years a meat draw has taken place?

Call in anytime from 9pm to buy your tickets.

£1 a ticket, drawn at 11pm and you could win a breakfast pack, joint of meat or chops for your Sunday roast, supplied fresh from Bartlett's butchers in Kidlington. (At least 5 prizes)

All proceeds go to the upkeep of the playing field via sports and social.



what's on?



CASSINGTON MOVIES **1st June 2018**

The Post

Tickets £5 from Ruth 01865 883512. Bar and raffle.
Doors open at 7pm and the film starts at 7.30pm.



CASSINGTON CAFÉ
CASSINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Monday 4th June 2018
10am - 12 noon

CASSINGTON WI

Thursday 21 June 2018 - 7:30pm

JEWELLERY

with Joanna Ripley

the WI
INSPIRING WOMEN



The Cassington
Kickabout - every
Wednesday at 8pm at
Cassington playing fields

Cassington Bookworms

Next meeting to be
advised.

All welcome.

Phone 880740 for venue
if you can't wait!

