



JANUARY 2020 (#511)

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Previous editions can be found online at  
[www.wospweb.com/site/Cassington-Online](http://www.wospweb.com/site/Cassington-Online)

**Cassington and Worton News**

## New Year's Resolutions To Help The Environment

With 2020 just around the corner, people are beginning to think of their new year's resolutions for the next 12 months.

A new year presents the ideal opportunity to set goals and make positive changes in your life. There has never been as much focus on saving our planet from the doom and gloom of global warming and climate change than now. This means that 2020 is the perfect time to create new year's resolutions centred around reducing your carbon footprint and living a greener life.

### 1. Make your bathroom plastic-free

The first thing we must all stop doing is treating bathroom waste as if it's exempt from the recycling process. Plastic shampoo bottles are more likely to end up in the general waste bin because a lot of people neglect to separate out their bathroom rubbish. Here are a few ways in which you can increase sustainability in your bathroom:

- Use environmentally friendly cleaning products:
- Buy biodegradable cotton buds and toothbrushes: Cotton buds tend to get flushed down the toilet, find their way to the ocean and do a huge amount of damage to the marine life that ingests them. Wooden toothbrushes are also available.
- Use bar soap rather than heavily packaged liquid soap: Ensure it doesn't contain palm oil. You can also get plastic-free shampoo bars.
- Buy shampoos, shower gels, etc. in bulk: This reduces the overall amount of packaging, especially if you buy refillable products.
- It's easy to find recycled toilet paper, but it generally comes in plastic packaging!

### 2. Eat with the seasons

Eating foods that aren't in season inevitably means buying products that have been transported a significant distance for your enjoyment. It wouldn't be easy to give up everything that has been imported but the more locally produced seasonal goods we consume the better. Eating the seasons mean we reduce the energy and associated CO2 emissions required to get food to our table. Locally produced seasonal foods are fresher, and therefore taste better and provide higher levels of vitamins and minerals. Imported vegetables have often been treated with chemicals or gasses post-harvest to extend their shelf-life. Seasonal food is also generally less expensive than imported food that is out of season in the UK.

### 3. Carry your own water bottle

You may think that as long as you recycle your water bottles, you're not doing any harm. However, recycling costs money, and is a complicated process, often meaning that not all of the bottle is recycled anyway. It's a far better idea to carry your own bottle, and refill it when it's empty. There are lots of different types to choose from; some are very light; some have a lovely design; some keep drinks cool, and you can add fruit to some for a little bit of flavour.

### 4. Use public transport, walk or cycle

It doesn't always seem especially convenient to take public transport, walk or

cycle. However, there are so many benefits, and we recommend giving it some serious thought:

- Less vehicles on the road reduces emissions that harm the environment.
- Fewer emissions result in healthier air for people's lungs – especially in cities, and for those at 'exhaust level' – i.e. children!
- Walking and cycling are great exercise.
- It could be much cheaper for you!

You could even compromise by using a Park and Bike system. Of course, some areas are not well served with public transport, and some rail season tickets are extremely expensive. If you rely on a car to get to your place of work, offer to share with a colleague – if you work in a big city you may get there more quickly than everybody else thanks to car-sharing lanes.

### 5. Cut down on food waste

Here's a couple of statistics that aren't very easy to digest:

- A third of food produced in the world every year is lost or wasted. That's approximately 1.3 billion tonnes.
- Per capita waste by consumers is over 10 times higher per year in Europe and North America than in sub-Saharan Africa, south and south-eastern Asia.

Consumers aren't responsible for all of this – some is destroyed at the farm gate because it might not be the correct quality – but there's still a lot we can do to reduce this obscene amount of waste, such as:

- Support retailers offering imperfect fruit and vegetables at lower prices.
- Steer clear of 2 for 1 and BOGOF deals in supermarkets unless you are absolutely sure the items are something you will definitely consume, or something you can freeze for a later date.
- Learn to make soups, stews and smoothies to use up fruit and vegetables that are past their best. The benefit of doing this ensures you'll get your 5-a-day!
- Remember that Best Before dates are just that – Best Before! If it looks, tastes and smells fine, then it will be fine. The important date to take notice of is the Use By date. These are applied to products that become unsafe to eat quite quickly, even though they may look fine.

### 6. Switch off appliances when not in use

Did you know that electricity still runs inside an appliance while it's switched off if it's left plugged into a live wall socket? According to The Energy Saving Trust, we could also save ourselves around £80 per year on our electricity bills if we didn't leave items on 'stand-by'.

The main culprit for wasting energy in our homes whilst on stand-by is the television, which is on stand-by for an average of 11 hours per day, costing £23.8million annually. Wow!

After that, computers, tablets, mobile phones, set-top boxes and consoles waste the most energy on stand-by. As well as saving money and energy, it's worth remembering to switch off a computer, as its lifetime is dependant on how much it's in use. Just don't unplug your Sky+ box if it's set to 'series link'! Make sure you, and the rest of your family, don't leave lights blazing in rooms you're not even in, and install some LED light bulbs, which not only use less electricity, but last longer, reducing the need to recycle them.

Source of article: <https://myenergi.com/>

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Contributions should be provided by 20th of the month. Email submissions (in the body or as a Word attachment) to: [cawneditor@gmail.com](mailto: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.

# welcome

## Kevin's CAWner

On behalf of everyone connected with the CAWN may I wish you and yours a happy new year and for those who have resolved to improve your eating regime, I came across this 'prayer' based on the style of Psalm 23:

*Strict is my diet, I must not want.  
It maketh me to lie down hungry.  
It leadeth me past the confectioners  
It trieth my willpower.  
It leadeth me in the paths of starvation for my figures sake.  
Yea though I walk through the aisles of the pastry department,  
I will buy no sweet rolls for they are fattening.  
The cakes and pies they tempt me.  
Before me is a table set with green beans and lettuce.  
I filleth my stomach with liquids.  
My days quote runneth over.  
Surely calories and weight charts will follow me all the days of my life,  
And I will dwell in the fast of scales forever!*

Happy reading - and hey! feedback and contributions always welcomed.

Email: CAWNEditor@gmail.com

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.



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## January stargazing highlights

**Jan 3/4:** Quadrantids Meteors - The first major meteor shower of 2020, the Quadrantids, peaks on the night of January 3 and early morning hours of January 4.

**Jan 5:** Earth's Perihelion - At 07:47 UTC, the Earth will reach its perihelion—the point on its orbit that is closest to the Sun.

**Jan 10:** Wolf Moon - The first Full Moon of the year is colloquially known as Wolf Moon in many northern cultures. This occurs when the Sun and the Moon are on opposite sides of the Earth.

**Jan 10/11:** Penumbra Lunar Eclipse - There's also a penumbral lunar eclipse on January 10/11, depending on your timezone. Most penumbral lunar eclipses look like a regular Full Moon.

**Jan 24:** New Moon - The Moon will come between the Sun and the Earth, and the illuminated side of the Moon will face away from the Earth. A New Moon is almost impossible to see, even with a telescope.

## Burford Singers – Bach St John Passion Saturday, 4th April 2020, 7.30pm Church of St John the Baptist Church Green, Burford OX18 4RY

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Songs of Praise usually the 2ND SUNDAY of the month, 3.00pm

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RECYCLING MADE EASY



## Time for a new washing machine



As I have said before I was brought up to always (where at all possible) repair and mend rather than buy new or pay to have things mended.

So, I have repaired and resurrected our old washer-dryer many times over the last twelve years. In its life I have replaced the main heating element, two dryer elements, the carbon motor brushes, the main drum bearings and replaced the tiny switches on the main circuit board.

However, a couple of months ago I made a vow to my wife that, when it had its next "major" breakdown, we would buy a new one. Hence, a couple of weeks ago when it started producing a toxic smell of burning I was held to my promise and we now have a brand new, quiet and efficient washing machine.

Sometimes we just cannot fix stuff on our own or a repair becomes uneconomic (even if we do it ourselves). Jesus once said that to put a new patch on old coat was foolish and putting new wine into old wineskins was similarly unwise. (Mark 2: 21-22 page 40 in your Jubilee New Testament)

The point Jesus makes is that just "patching up your faith" can be problematic and insufficient. What is really needed is a complete transformation.

At this time of year people often try to transform their lives by making New Year promises but they often fail by not giving their full commitment to their new resolution. As far as our faith is concerned sometimes a complete turn around is needed and a new commitment - "repair and mend" just won't make the changes desired.

Sometimes you just need to ditch the old and get the new. Elsewhere in the bible Jesus said that we need to be "born again".

Sometimes we need to admit that we cannot fix things on our own – but in the case of our faith and hearts, and our sin, there is help available.

Even I eventually bought a new washing machine!

Revd Roger Aston

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The Cassington Kickabout every Wednesday evening is cancelled for the foreseeable future

## **BLADON COMMUNITY JOINS FORCES TO SAVE PUB WHERE CHURCHILL "LEARNED TO DRINK"**

Inspired by the great man himself, locals have formed a "War Cabinet" as they give people the chance to buy shares in the pub – and are being supported in their effort by Sir Winston's great grandson Randolph Churchill.

The White House pub has been at the heart of the Bladon community since the 17th Century and is the last remaining pub and community facility in the village.

It's also the pub where Churchill, who was born at nearby Blenheim Palace, "learned to drink". With a growing population of just under 1,000 residents and thousands of visiting tourists, this important and historic pub is the lifeblood of the community.

Anticipating that the current owners, Greene King, would try to sell the White House at some point, in June 2019, Bladon Parish Council with the support of Bladon villagers, successfully applied to West Oxfordshire District Council for the pub to be listed as an Asset of Community Value (ACV). The community now has an opportunity to put in a bid to buy and manage the future of the pub. A group of concerned residents have been working hard to determine if this is viable and now plan to make it a reality. But they have only until March 2020 to raise the £500,000 required to buy the pub for the community and so far villagers have pledged over £120,000.

Mike Edwards, of Bladon Community Pub Committee, said: "To quote Sir Winston, we plan to 'never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never'. Now that Greene King has made the decision to place the pub on the disposal list, Bladon locals have followed the example of The White House's most revered patron, Sir Winston, by forming our own War Cabinet and society to keep this Churchillian centre to our village open."

Randolph Churchill, great grandson of Sir Winston Churchill added: "Our family is very proud of our association with Bladon and the love and care the community gives towards my great grandfather's resting place. Your plans very much have our family blessing."

In the UK, nearly 100 pubs have been taken over by the community and every one of them continues to thrive. Early and regular engagement with the community through leafleting, public meetings (attended by over 100 residents) and numerous conversations has shown that there is a strong level of support for a community purchase in Bladon.

The community pub bid has widespread support and Dominic Hare, Chief Executive Officer, Blenheim Palace commented: "We are delighted to support the Bladon Community Pub project. The White House has been one of

the hubs of community life in Bladon for a very long time and we believe that it is very important for all Bladon residents for it to remain this way. We will support the project team at every step and urge others to do so too."

Robert Courts M.P. commented: "As a local resident of Bladon, I know just how important the White House is to our community. As a village in a rural area too, the pub is a vital resource for those vulnerable residents who may not be able to travel further afield for the services it provides, and it can help to alleviate rural isolation. I am fully behind the campaign to run the White House as a community pub."

The Bladon Community Pub Committee has been in contact with a number of successful community pub groups to gain insight into the challenges and opportunities ahead. It has also joined the Plunkett Foundation – an organisation that supports communities with initiatives like this.

Together they will develop a business plan and make the project a success as they have for so many other community pubs.

The Bladon Community Pub Committee has been really encouraged by the wide support for this community purchase, not just from Bladon Residents, but from surrounding villages and further afield. Several individual investors have pledged their support. The White House has enormous potential and could be a social hub for the village offering a whole host of services.

### **Can you help us save Winston's White House?**

Be part of this unique opportunity to own part of the historic White House by becoming an investor. Visit <http://bladoncommunitypub.org/> to buy shares, the share offer is open between 13th December 2019 and 31st January 2020.

Alternatively, you can donate to help save the pub at: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/save-churchills-white-house>.

### **Want to find out more about buying pub shares?**

We'll be holding several drop in sessions where the Pub Committee will be available to answer any questions about buying pub shares:

- Saturday 4th January, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Bladon Church Rooms
- Sunday 12th January, 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. at Bladon Church Rooms
- Saturday 18th January, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Bladon Church Rooms
- Tuesday 21st January, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the White House, Bladon

### **Follow our story at**

or join our mailing list.

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## Community Education at the Marlborough School, Woodstock

*By Fliss Pusey, Manager*

*Our new 2019-20 programme is now available! See the Marlborough School website for full details of courses and workshops starting between September 2019 and July 2020 with latest availability as places fill up. Brochures have been delivered to many local homes over summer. If you didn't get one, please download a copy from the website or phone the office and we'll send you one.*

*We offer daytime, evening and weekend courses during school term time. We have new subjects on blogging and improving your website, knitting, dressmaking, vegan cookery, using natural dyes, holiday Spanish, herbs for health and photography. Our established courses and workshops continue including art, craft and sewing, guitar and singing, cookery and languages, wellbeing courses such as massage, Reiki, and Mindful Menopause, and sports and exercise classes in badminton, archery, pilates, tai chi, yoga and Zumba Gold.*

*The office re-opens for phone bookings from Wednesday 4 September and you can always enrol by email or post as well. We look forward to welcoming all our students – new and existing – to Marlborough School Community Education for the new term.*

**Marlborough C of E School, Community Education**  
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## We need more bell ringers....

You don't need to be strong, musical or a church goer.

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## What we've been up to...

### **New Bursary Scheme for 2020**

We are inviting grant applications for our 2020 bursary scheme from local projects and charities that focus their work on benefitting the community by bringing people together.

The £50,000 Blenheim Bursary is available to all charities and organisations based within a 20-mile radius of Blenheim Palace. Find out more at [blenheim.org/bursary](http://blenheim.org/bursary)

### **Introducing a herd of British White Cattle into our Estate**

A herd of British White Cattle have been introduced to help manage our ancient oak woodland. Forty-five cattle, including twenty-one cows, twenty-three calves and Sebastian the bull have been released into High Park, a private area of the estate. It's the first time the woods have been grazed by livestock for more than a century and we hope their introduction will help our ancient oaks thrive.

[blenheim.org](http://blenheim.org)

[blenheimestate.com](http://blenheimestate.com)

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## This Christmas visit...

### **Living Crafts for Christmas**

22 November 2019 – 5 January 2020

Christmas at Blenheim Palace is bigger than ever, with a range of experiences from early in the day to late in the evening including The Christmas Market, Alice in the Palace and our Illuminated Light Trail.

## A look ahead to 2020...

### **Restoration and Conservation Tours**

10 January – 9 February

Every year, over a six-week period, every part of the Blenheim Palace collection is meticulously cleaned and maintained as part of our commitment as custodians of this World Heritage Site. You will be able to see our team in action as the Palace remains open through the winter.

### **Let's Misbehave - 1920s Exhibition**

15 February – 13 April

Travel back in time to the Roaring Twenties as Blenheim Palace invites bright young things to a magnificent party celebrating this famously decadent decade. Gain a fascinating insight into the heady world of the upper classes in a time of great social, artistic and political change.

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## Witney Music Society

The first Witney Music Society concert in the New Year will be given by the prize-winning Piatti Quartet who'll be playing works for string quartet by Haydn, Shostakovich and Beethoven.

**The concert will be at High Street Methodist Church, Witney at 7.30pm on Friday 10 January.**

Tickets (£12, £1 for under 19s) will be available at the door from 7pm or in advance online or in person from Greenway Antiques or Rapture in Witney. For more information please telephone 01993 702296 or visit the Witney Music Society website [www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk](http://www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk)



Hello again, it's that time of the year for all our good wishes of happiness and good health for Christmas and New Year to all of Cassington & Worton residents.

Dawn & Pete Bowerman  
Betty Bowerman  
John Floyd & Jan  
Elsie & Colin Floyd

Editor's note: The above message was delivered by hand and was inadvertently overlooked when putting the December edition together. My sincere apologies to you all. Your season's greetings were shared via the Cassington Family Group on Facebook at the start of December as well.

## Woodstock & District U3A

Chris Sladen

Another almost-full house for our November speaker meeting, with several new members signing up - perhaps congratulating themselves on their prescience as our Chair, Pam Rook, announced arrangements for New Year lunch and other festivities.

Our guest speaker, Richard Macrory QC, then took us rapidly through the history and practice of environmental law within the EU - keeping drinking water potable, beaches free of grot, etc. Impossible to avoid the dread word Brexit, but Richard assured us that the same legislation will apply and it will be up to native institutions to police it.

December's talk, 'Victorian Novels' by Dr David Grylls, should prove less political, but maybe with a faintly seasonal tinge? Bets are now being taken on how many minutes will elapse before the words 'Charles Dickens' and 'Christmas

Carol' are heard: Tuesday 3 December, 2 p.m., Woodstock Community Centre.

Looking ahead to **Tuesday 7 January (same time & venue)**, Alan Williams' talk on 'Health and Wellbeing' could conceivably have timely overtones when one thinks of those nocturnal raves, potations and after-effects popularly associated with students (Third Agers, of course, know how to celebrate and survive). For details of Branch meetings and groups, see our website, [www.u3asites.org.uk/woodstock](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/woodstock).

Just space to mention the U3A national summer school I attended earlier at the Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester - a picturesque and comfortable venue, plus good range of subjects, none too taxing, professional tuition, and pleasant company. For national and regional U3A events, go to [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk).

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# Observation

by Stephen Wright

Hostels. They're a mixed bag. My first experience with staying in a hostel was not a good one. I was in year 8 at Bartholomew School and we went on a trip to Bath. I can only recall a few things from that trip. Firstly, my bed was a mess and had a cup of strange purple liquid next to it which concerned me. Then, we weren't allowed to go out because Adam Langdon had lost his PSP. We created a big old search party only for him to discover it in his suitcase. My other memory is that someone called Mark got in trouble for throwing an orange out the window which, unfortunately for him, landed on a pedestrian's head.

That incident and a number of others led to him being moved on from Bartholomew, so what is he doing today, I hear you cry? Well, now he works for Sky Sports News having graduated from Bournemouth University, so if you fancy a career in sports journalism go to YMCA in Bath and chuck a fruit out the window.

More recently, my hostel experiences have been pretty good across Vienna, Budapest and London. At the start of November, following Brighton vs Norwich, I took the train to London Victoria as I was meeting some friends in the capital the following day. I checked into the cheapest hostel I could find, spending £21 on one night at Astor Victoria Hostel, and it looked as though it was going to represent excellent value as per. I just find it hard to justify spending much money on somewhere I'm only going to sleep for one night in my life, and I guess trying to kip in a leaking tent at the Isle of Wight Festival hardened me to these things.

Anyway, the good thing about hostels is you often meet people more interesting than you who are travelling the world. I introduced myself to the

girl in the bed opposite mine to discover that she is from Australia and has been travelling across all of Europe. As she was just coming towards the end of her world tour, she said to me "the weather is so miserable here, I don't know how you live in this country." "Try doing it for 22 years," I replied! Unfortunately, there's always a chance that for every nice person you come across there will be another not-so-nice person, as was the case.

My failed attempts to get to sleep were certainly not helped by the fact that a bloke in a bed to my left kept farting very loudly throughout the night. In a way, I respect such nonchalance, to feel like you can have such freedom in a public environment, but at the time I was very disappointed by it. We all need to do it, of course, but at least try to be a bit more subtle when you're in a room with others. I didn't need that trumpet stopping me from getting to sleep at hourly intervals. I'm pretty sure the guy in the bottom bunk below the gassy chap got fed up, packed his bags and left in the middle of the night, and I can't blame him. Thankfully I did manage to get a handful of hours of shut-eye in the end and made my way to a coffee shop in the morning, where I am now writing this! I wonder if the rude man thought 'hmm, I see that CAWN writer is staying with us tonight. I'll get his attention to ensure my inclusion in next month's column.' Well, mission accomplished ya big bugger.

For what it's worth, London certainly does have its quirks. As I was travelling to the city from Brighton, I was minding my own business on the train when suddenly an acoustic guitar was blasting in my ear from just behind me on the carriage. I turned around to see an old-ish man with slick black hair attempting to perform a cover of Folsom Prison Blues. I say attempting, because although he wasn't horrific, he did miss one or two notes. Once he'd wrapped up his tune and I'd given a sympathetic smattering of applause, he quipped "my name's not Johnny, but I sure could use some cash," which tickled me. I didn't ask if he took contactless, mind you.

---

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## Cassington W.I.

This month we had our Christmas party rather than a regular meeting. Sue Butler kindly hosted our evening and despite being down on numbers, due to various family commitments and illness, we had a wonderful time. We all arrived with a plate of food to share with members and various drinks were available which included mulled wine after which we played a couple of silly games, one of which used chocolates as currency, and guess who won? Some members had personal memories of previous Christmases to share and others had amusing poems to read, all relating to Christmas. Before we realised, the hours had passed and it was time to leave.

**Our next meeting will be on January 16th when Louise Kelly will talk to us about internet safety.**

Maggie Nightingale  
13 December 2019



## Section Assistant - Monday or Thursday night Cubs.

Scouting into the future!

Would you like the chance to canoe, climb and light fires? As a Section Assistant in Eynsham Scout Group you will do all of this and more, using your current skills and learning new ones.

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No weekly commitment is needed, if you can help once or twice a term, we'd love to hear from you too!

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**Vicky's After School club will be opening on Tuesday 23rd April at St Peter's Primary School, Cassington**

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Bookings will work on a termly basis.

We offerer a safe, nurturing environment for children aged 4-11 and will include fun activities including arts and crafts, indoor and outdoor play and much more.

For bookings call Vicky on 0788 7711 454  
or email [vickyhickman1@gmail.com](mailto:vickyhickman1@gmail.com)

Visit our website

[www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk](http://www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk)

## Cassington's Vanishing Wildlife?

I have a friend whose thirty-year old daughter didn't know what a primrose looked like, which left me wondering how many children in the village have ever seen a primrose, a harebell or a cowslip ... let alone heard an owl, a cuckoo or a woodpecker? If like me you find this distressing, you may be interested in a **nature recovery workshop that is being held in Eynsham village hall on Wednesday 15th January at 7.30pm**. It will be chaired by Catriona Bass who runs the Long Mead Meadows project, a designated county wildlife site just north of the toll bridge and one of the 3% of traditional hay meadows left in Britain.

Catriona and Kevan farm Long Mead in the traditional way, taking a late hay cut thus allowing wildflowers to grow and nesting birds to breed. The meadow is then grazed by

cattle or sheep. Visiting the site in June, surrounded by a sea of different wild flowers, butterflies and the buzzing of insects, one experiences the full extent of what has been lost.

The nature recovery idea is to find similar sites in Eynsham and the surrounding villages to promote the return of diverse wild flowers, butterflies, bees and other insects. If you have visited the Market Garden in Eynsham recently you may have noticed on the wall, to the left of the door as you enter, a local map festooned with stickers showing possible sites or favourite nature areas. Even if you are unable to attend the meeting on the 15th, please pop in and add your own suggestions. Or **come along to our next meeting on 26th February at 8pm**.

**Cassington Climate/Eco Group (Helena Nielsen)**

## Cassington surface water drainage and recent flooding

I thought it would be a good idea to write a small piece indicating the main routes of the surface water drainage in the village.

There are **three main water courses** that drain the main part of the village.

The first and main course is the ditch that runs behind the houses on the right-hand side of Elms Road. It has tributaries that join it at the top of Elms Road that run right and left. The right branch drains to the side and part top of the recreation area and the left goes up behind the pavilion and then links to the balance pond on the Blenheim owned land in the right corner near the track that goes up to farm. When we have heavy rain there is a substantial flow of water coming down the ditches to the side of the track and this was the reason for the balance pond to try and hold back some of this sudden flow. There is also a ditch behind the houses in Elms road left side (odd numbers) which drains the allotment area which connects to the big ditch and culvert near number 2 Elms Road by way of pipe and ditch in front of 1 Elms Road. This ditch does not produce much flow and maybe blocked and consequently back flowing to the ditch behind the pavilion.

A meeting has been arranged with Blenheim to see if this can be investigated.

Going back to the main ditch and drain next to no 2 Elms road this by culvert and open ditches makes its way down under Little lane path into the open ditch between the school and St Peters Close. After this the water flows into the ditch beside Horsemere Lane and then under the A40 to the Thames.

There are small pipes and tributaries that feed into this ditch from the school field and Church Lane.

The next flow of water drains the area by the Hollow Furlong, Williams Court and Eynsham road which either drains down Mill Lane or into Church Lane and across the school land as mentioned above. There is an open gully opposite the archway for the Chequers which catches some

of this flow and by pipe and manholes diverts this water down a pipe in Mill Lane.

The water that goes down Mill Lane drains by pipework into the field beyond the five-bar gate. This in turn should go into a culvert under the A40 down to the Thames. This culvert does not seem to be working and has been reported to Oxfordshire County Council.

The last water course is Batimer Ditch which runs under the road about 100 meters east of the Bladon turn. This drains water off the field to the left going toward Bladon and the area above in the fields and industrial buildings as well as Jericho farm. This ditch eventually finds its way to the Thames.

All these ditches and drains are important to keeping the village safe from flooding. It is important that they are kept clear of rubbish and vegetation.

These are the open ditch and culvert situations but there are many other gullies and drainage pipes under roads that link into the open ditches that go to the Thames.

These pipes and gullies are not kept as a record by the Parish Council, but it hoped that WODC will have records which will enable us to understand this how surface water is handled in the Village.

With the current forecasts for more rainfall with climate change it is important we understand this drainage.

Equally important is for us as a village to make sure all water courses ditches and culverts are kept clear of obstructions

There are various agencies who work to make this drainage work. The Environment agency looks after the main water course from Horsemere Lane to the recreation ground where there is public access.

Oxfordshire County Council and West Oxfordshire District Council have responsibilities which are not always easy to establish.

The Parish Council do not have funds to take on any ditch clearing. If you see areas of concern let the Clerk know and we will see if we can get the appropriate body to deal with it.

**Hugh Thomas, Chair Cassington Parish Council.**



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

(Times are changed occasionally so consult the Weekly Newsletter online)

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

**The Retired Priest** : Father Martin Flatman is available on 07719 646790 or email [frmartinflatman@gmail.com](mailto:frmartinflatman@gmail.com)

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**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 NEW YEARS DAY CELEBRATIONS** are on Wednesday 1st January and begin with a **Mass with Carols at 10.00am** followed by Coffee/ Tea and Cake in the Tolkien Room. This is part of our celebration of Christmas for the Twelve Days

CHRISTMAS ENDS on the Twelfth Day which we call the **FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY** but since that is a Monday this year we will celebrate it a day early on **Sunday 5th January at our 10.00am Mass**. This is when we celebrate the coming of the first non-Jews to see Jesus. The Wise men represent the whole world turning towards the light (the star) and finding God.



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[www.churchfieldscarehome.co.uk](http://www.churchfieldscarehome.co.uk)



# St Peter's Church

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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.*

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.

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January**  
**8am Holy Communion (BCP)**  
**10am Morning Worship**  
*Revd Duncan Fraser*

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January**  
**10am Holy Communion**  
*Revd Duncan Fraser*

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January**  
**8am Holy Communion (BCP)**  
*Revd Duncan Fraser*  
**10am Morning Worship**  
*Keith Jones*

**11.30am Holy Communion**  
**at Churchfields Care Home**  
*Revd Roger Aston*

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January**  
**10am Holy Communion**  
*Revd Andrew Atherstone*  
**6pm Evening Prayer (BCP)**  
*Keith Jones*

### **Funeral Services at St Peter's**

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 - The interment of ashes of the late Patricia Dickens.

9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 - The funeral and burial of the late Stella Skinner.



### **North Oxfordshire Food Bank**

**St Peter's Church collects items for the Food Bank all year round. If you would like to contribute there is a box in the church porch which is collected regularly.**



### **Cassington Tinies & Toddlers**

A Parent/Carer & Toddler group

Cassington Village Hall 10.00-11.30am on Mondays (school term-time)

January 13th, 20th, 27th

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.*

*For more information please contact: [stleonards\\_stpeters@btconnect.com](mailto:stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com) Tel: 01865 883325*

Contact details:

Vicar – Revd Duncan Fraser Tel: 07810324088 email: [vicar@stleonardsandstpeters.church](mailto:vicar@stleonardsandstpeters.church)

Associate Curate – Revd Roger Aston Tel: 01865 880757 email: [rogera52@aol.com](mailto:rogera52@aol.com)

Children & Families Worker – Carmen Fraser Tel: 07867675594 email: [cf@stleonardsandstpeters.church](mailto:cf@stleonardsandstpeters.church)

Youth Worker: Ollly Shaw email: [youth.stleonards@gmail.com](mailto:youth.stleonards@gmail.com) blog: <http://stleonardsyouth.blogspot.co.uk>

web site [www.stleonardsyouth.co.uk](http://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](mailto:stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com)



## **December 2019**

### **Eynsham Park and Ride scheme**

The Parish Council have been in touch with OCC to see what plans are being prepared to improve the accessibility for the village once Horsemere Lane is closed. We are awaiting a reply

### **Fix My Street**

Residents are reminded that blocked gullies, drains, overgrown vegetation and potholes can be recorded on the OCC website at Fix My Street.

### **Climate Change Group**

The Group has a productive meeting earlier in the month. The meeting minutes are reported elsewhere. (*Editor - no minutes had been received by the time this edition went to print, only the article on page 13*).

### **Neighbourhood Watch and Speed Watch**

No Cold Calling notices for front doors and windows are now available please check with your local coordinator for supplies.

### **Thames Water**

The Parish Council have written again to Thames Water reminding them of their defective main and the danger to the village. To date a reply has not been forthcoming. The Parish Council will write again in the new year.

### **Drainage and Flooding**

Elsewhere there is an article outlining the surface water drainage in the village (*Editor - see page 13*).

### **Web site for the village**

The Parish Council have paid the necessary fee for the web site and hoped to have some news soon. The administrator for the government web sites (.gov) has come back with a list of questions.

### **Tree planting**

The Parish Council agreed to plant a small tree on the Green to the school side the Christmas tree. Suggestion as to the type of tree are being considered.

### **Christmas Carols on the Green**

The Parish Council wish to thank Blenheim Estate for providing the tree this year as a donation to the village.

### **Salt Spreading**

The Parish Council have a hand operated salt spreader which has been given to the school for use around the school. Salt is available from the Parish Council from a store in the garage on the Sports field.

### **Open area on the right in Church Lane nearly opposite the Chequers**

The Parish Council will be looking for tenders to tidy this area up. Removing tree stumps and generally reducing the levels so the area can be planted and grassed to be easily maintained.

### **Dog Fouling**

It was mentioned by a resident that dog fouling is happening in Eynsham road. Please if you see this happening can you remind the offenders that there are bins available.

#### **N.B Clerk contact details**

Email [cassingtonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:cassingtonclerk@gmail.com)

Tel 01993 622750.

## **Next Parish Council meeting will be 9th January 2019 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.**

Hugh Thomas, Chairman, Cassington Parish Council  
11th December 2019

Chairman: Cllr. Hugh Thomas, 20, The Green  
Cllr. Julie Perrin, Triwood, 44 Eynsham Rd  
Cllr. Barbara King, 9, St Peter's Close  
Cllr. Dave Butlin, The Squirrels, Bell Lane  
Cllr. Chris Metcalf, 2 The Tennis

  
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## Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators

The aim of Neighbourhood Watch in our village is to look out for one another, keep everyone safe and bring all sections of our community together. Please find below list of NHW co-ordinators with contact details.

Eynsham Road ..... Julie Perrin 07599 371930  
 Mill Lane and Pound Lane ..... Sara Bolton 07930 307928  
 The Green and Alms Houses ..... Nav Dey 07989 527835  
 The Red Lion/The Green (Pub side) ..... Jan Faulkner 01865 881371  
 Elms Rd/Yarnton Rd (house up to Pub side) Sally Britton- 07962 177221  
 & Emily Lemaire - 07507 599230  
 Barrow Court/Yarnton Rd (up to Bell Lane) Nicola Jeeves 07930 888664  
 The Tennis/Yarnton Road (The Green side up to The Vicarage)  
 Vicky Thomas-Clarke 07917 403976  
 Bell Lane (down to St.Peters Close) ..... Sam Jones 07465 426943  
 Bell Close & Orchard Close - co-ordinator required. Temp Sam or Cate  
 St.Peters Close ..... Stewart Clifton 01865 880388 /  
 Cate Sirkett 07968 720241  
 Lynton Lane ..... Yvonne Wright 07952 732416 /  
 Kathryn Humphries 07786 041381  
 Horsemere Lane (St.Peters Close onwards) Stacey Norton 07717 874552

## what's on?

### 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

### Village contact list

Allotments, Cassington..... 01993 882590  
 Bartholomew School, Eynsham..... 01865 881430  
 St Peter's Church Cassington ..... 01865 883325  
 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 bookings .....cassingtonvillagehall@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!



### Sports & Social Club

With the pavilion having gone through a big transformation, we are now ready to hire it once again for small or large events. We have had weddings in the past with a marquee and even a big top on the playing field. Please do get in touch if you would like to hire it or know of other sports teams that need a place to train or play.

- Cassington Sports and Social club pavilion hire prices.

	Weekdays per hour	Weekends per hour
Village rate	£10	£14
Non-village rate	£12	£16
Commercial hire	£18	£20

- Muga hire £22 per hour
- Adults grass football pitch and pavilion £35 per game
- Cricket pitch and pavilion £50 per game
- Tennis court £10 an hour or free if you have a Muga annual pass (June-September)

Please email Graham on for all enquiries and bookings  
 cassingtonsport@millsclan.force9.co.uk

### 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

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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

**PORTRAIT ARTIST**   
Full time artist working from studio in Cassington.  
Commission a 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

I'm Ella, a young girl in the village, who will come and do glitter and henna tattoos for your events! I will be free most weekends and holidays, and am able to travel a reasonable distance, please email me at [ella.johnson@live.com](mailto:ella.johnson@live.com) or message me at 07539916507 for more details.

**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](mailto:vickyt@pink-sky.co.uk)) or Jess (07852187079; [lefevrejessica@yahoo.com](mailto:lefevrejessica@yahoo.com)).

**DOG WALKERS**  
Do you have a dog? Do you want it walked by two responsible 13yr old dog-owners? We are free to walk your dog from 3:30pm – 6pm on weekdays and 10am-6pm on weekends. Very reasonable prices! If you are interested please contact Seren on 07740184757 or email me at [17bowersser@bartholomew.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:17bowersser@bartholomew.oxon.sch.uk) for more information

## AVON CALLING

Hello! My name is Julie Perrin and I am back as Cassington's Avon Lady.  
If you would like a friendly and convenient door to door service for all your toiletries, make-up and luxuries, please contact me any weekday afternoon on 07599 371930 for your free catalogue.  
I will be pleased to add you to my round.  
Julie Perrin, 44 Eynsham Road

Is your garden in dismay?  
Looking for a helpful young boy to do it for you?  
Well I can help, I'm in need of a summer job and would love to give a helping hand!



if you have any enquiries or want to know my availability just call 07840377476



**West Oxfordshire Community Choir**  
**WEDNESDAYS (term time)**  
**7.30 - 9.30pm,**  
**St James Centre, High Street, Stonesfield,**  
**Oxon, OX29 8PU**  
**www.wocchoir.co.uk email: wocchoir@yahoo.**

WOC is welcoming new members this September. The choir has been running since 2013 and is open to all West Oxfordshire residents with an interest in singing. The group do not learn from sheet music so music reading ability is not required. Previous singing experience is not a requirement either as the choir welcomes singers of all abilities. The choir sing an eclectic repertoire of songs from artists such as The Beatles, Coldplay and Stevie Wonder, as well as much loved show tunes and easy listening classics. Fees are paid in advance on a termly basis charged at £6 per week.

(Please note terms range from 10-13 weeks long).

WOC Choir's director and founder, Laura Rudge is a vocal coach and singing teacher with many years of experience working within the field. Rehearsals always include a gentle physical and vocal warm up which gives the choir members a chance to warm up their vocal chords and shake of their stresses and strains from the day before the full singing begins.

So, if you have been thinking of joining a choir or are looking for a friendly bunch of local singers to join, why not come along to WOC choir's launch night\* on Wednesday 11th Sept at 7.30pm and see if WOC choir is for you? Lift share possible from Cassington. \*launch nights are free for new participants.



# what's on?



## Eynsham Repair Cafe

**Saturday, 11 January 2020**  
**from 14:00-16:30**

Scout Hall, Back Lane, Eynsham, OX29 4QW



— HAPPY NEW YEAR —

### Dates for your diary

Unless shown, events are in the Village Hall

### January 2020

<u>Friday 3rd, 7pm for 7:30pm</u>	<b>NO</b> Cassington Movies
<u>Monday 6th, 10 am - 12 noon</u>	Cassington Cafe
<u>Thursday 9th, 7:30pm</u>	Parish Council Meeting
<u>Monday 13th, 10am - 11:30am</u>	Cassington Tinies & Toddlers
<u>Monday 13th, 8pm</u>	Cassington Bookworms
<u>Thursday 16th, 7:30pm</u>	Cassington WI
<u>Monday 20th, 10am - 11:30am</u>	Cassington Tinies & Toddlers
<u>Monday 20th,</u>	February CAWN deadline
<u>Saturday 25th, 7:30pm</u>	Burns Nights @ the Red Lion
<u>Monday 27th, 10am - 11:30am</u>	Cassington Tinies & Toddlers

### February 2020

<u>Monday 3rd, 10 am - 12 noon</u>	Cassington Cafe
<u>Thursday 9th, 7:30pm</u>	Parish Council Meeting
<u>Friday 7th, 7pm for 7:30pm</u>	Cassington Movies
<u>Thursday 20th, 7:30pm</u>	Cassington WI
<u>Thursday 20th,</u>	March CAWN deadline

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

## Burns Night at the Red Lion

**7.30pm 25 January 2020**

**Traditional food and a wee dram**  
**A good sing along and more**  
**Ring NOW to book a seat**  
**Jan - 01865 881371**  
**Elsbeth - 01865 880100**



### FRIDAY MOVIE NIGHT

Next movie night Friday 7th February

### DOWNTON ABBEY

in the Village Hall

Tickets £5 from Ruth 01865 883512. Bar and raffle.

Doors open at 7pm and the film starts at 7.30pm.

### CASSINGTON WI

**January 16th 2020**

**Louise Kelly talks**  
**Internet Safety**

**theWI**  
 INSPIRING WOMEN



**CASSINGTON CAFÉ**  
 CASSINGTON VILLAGE HALL

**Monday 6th January 2020**  
 10am - 12 noon

### Cassington Bookworms

The next meeting is on Monday  
**13th January at 8pm.**

In preparation we are reading  
 'Life Among the Savages' by  
 Shirley Jackson.

All Welcome.

Venue: The Old Manor,  
 Cassington

