



SEPTEMBER 2020 (#

Previous editions can be found online at www.wospweb.com/site/Cassington-Online

Cassington and Worton News

CONGRATULATIONS

There are few people who would argue that 2020 has not been a difficult year for everyone. This is especially true for young people, whose education and training has been seriously disrupted. In this edition we want to pay credit to all those young people, who have not only coped with these difficulties, but in many cases had remarkable achievements. In particular congratulations are due to four brilliant young women. They all graduated this summer: three with first class degrees and the fourth graduated as a doctor.



Bethan **Humphris** started her education Cassington School playgroup. She went on to St Peter's Primary School and then Bartholomew School, Eynsham. She graduated this summer with a first class BSc (Hons) in Bioscience Nottingham from University. She is now studying for a Masters at Reading University

to become a physician associate.

Hinton Fern also attended St Peter's preschool Playgroup and Primary School, and Bartholomew School, Eynsham. She studied at the University of East Anglia, graduating this summer with a first class BA (Hons) in American Studies. She is now doing a Comics Studies Masters focussed on Visual storytelling also at UEA.



LANGUAGE THERAPY SENSON

Connie Rogers graduated in July with a first class BSc in Speech and Language Therapy from Reading University. She immediately started work at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Temporary Covid post working on the adult wards acute looking after patients with strokes and other acute neurological

illnesses and some Covid patients.

After 6 years training Miranda Rogers graduated the for second time, and is now Dr Rogers. studied at Somerville college Oxford (BA BMBCh), and did all her training in Oxford hospitals. Owing the pandemic she came back early from her elective in New Zealand and she was graduated early to help with Covid pressures.



She spent a couple of months on the paediatric ward at the John Radcliffe but is now working at the Bristol Royal Infirmary as a junior doctor.

Finally Congratulations to all those who gained GCSEs and A levels this summer. Good luck to pupils moving from Primary to Secondary education and to all those who have left school and are now starting jobs, training or further education; especially Aaron Mills, Ella Bishop and Rebecca Copelin, who all started at University this Autumn.

welcome

Anne's CAWNer

Welcome to the 520th edition of CAWN and my first edition! I shall start by apologising for any glitches, gaps and other mistakes that you may spot in this edition. When I agreed to take on as the editor I had no idea what was involved in creating a publication, so I have had a very steep learning curve in how to use the software. I must give huge thanks to the very patient Kevin Hinton, whose assistance has been invaluable.

I also want to give thanks to the previous editor Kevin Burroughs, who kept the show on the road for 4 years. I hope I can keep up the standards he set and continue to provide you all with useful and interesting information.

I am delighted to have been able to feature four of our outstanding young people on the front page. I would like to make this publication about the people in our village and I am sure there are many others that we could praise and celebrate. So please do send me your news - births, engagements, marriages, exam and job success and deaths. I want to feature them all.

I would also like to thank Sara Bolton, Bridget Sherlock, Stew Thompson, and the regular contributors who have all sent me articles for this edition.

Happy Reading ANNE

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With special thanks to...

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



October stargazing highlights

Oct 1: Full Moon

This full moon is known as the Harvest Moon. North American tribes called it the Hunters Moon. This is also the best night to view Mercury, just above the horizon in the west.

Oct 7: Draconids Meteor Shower

Best seen in early evening radiating from Draco.

Oct 13: Mars at Opposition

Mars will be brighter than at any other time of the year and visible all night long.

Oct 16: New Moon

The new moon will not be visible so this is the best night for viewing far off galaxies and star clusters.

Oct 21/22: Orionids Meteor Shower

Best seen after midnight radiating from Orion.

Oct 29/30: Southern Taurids Meteor Shower

Best seen after midnight radiating from Taurus.

Oct 31: Full Moon

This is also known as a Blue Moon as it is the second full moon of the month.

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.

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 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

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 or message me at 07539916507 for more details.

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email: amy@hemingwayart.co.uk web: www.amyhemingway.com tel: 01865 883991

GIFTS | WEDDINGS | BABY | FAMILY | PETS | HOME



Very reluctantly, we are discontinuing the services of the Car Pool until the Coronovirus situation improves. We apologise to all those who use our service, and hope that

we will be able to start again when things are safer for us all.

Anyone who needs transport to hospitals for routine outpatient appointments please contact the patient transport number 0300 100 0015 or Volunteer Link Up 01993 776277 (there may be costs with this service).



Vicky's After School club offers 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.

The club will be open from 3pm-6pm Monday-Friday.

Bookings will work on a termly basis.

For bookings call Vicky on 0788 7711 454 or email vickyhickman1@gmail.com

Visit our website www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

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Santa's Tour re - Covid

The Rotary Club of Eynsham is hoping that we will be able to organise some kind of presence for Santa in the villages which we normally include in our Christmas tour. This may have to take a different form from the usual, for example a static presence at an agreed position within the village or area. As we are unlikely to know exactly what the Covid related restrictions are until much nearer the time, plans will be formalised at the last minute and will be published in Eynsham Online, so please check there for details.

We have already been asked to attend an event at a primary school, so if anyone has a Christmas event, at a school, village hall, or other appropriate space, where they think it would be useful and beneficial for Santa to attend, please do get in touch through our general contact email address: info@eynshamrotary.org.uk

With best wishes from us all to you all.

Food Banks, Harvest and Gleaning



Firstly many thanks to all of you who have generously been donating to our local food banks via the box outside the church door. More on this below.

This time of year is traditionally 'harvest time' but sadly many, if not most of us, (even in semi-rural Cassington) have little contact with the production of our food. Our food may largely come from the supermarket and, regardless of the season, we have learned to expect a full range of fruit and veg; fish and meat; tinned and frozen foods.

In more agrarian times whole communities would labour to bring in the harvest and then celebrate with thanksgiving, both their work completed, and the bounty of the earth.

There is a lot about harvesting in the Bible. The Old Testament book of Ruth is a story of a young woman who had been widowed and was also a foreigner in the land but was able to survive because of the generosity built into the laws and traditions of the time as laid down in the book of Leviticus.

Leviticus 19:9-10 'Now when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest. Nor shall you glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather the fallen fruit of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the needy and for the stranger. I am the Lord your God.

People didn't just provide for those in need when they felt like it but it was built in to the system. It was planned giving. The farmer didn't regret the loss because what was given away was never regarded as his to start with.

Ruth gathered the grain that had been deliberately left for her. She gleaned behind the harvesters and received a great blessing besides.

Today I want to encourage you to be thankful to God and to our farmers, to our food producers and to our food retailers for the food that we enjoy.

However, I also want to challenge you, at this difficult time for so many families who are relying on food banks, to please

give regularly (if you are able).

Please donate non-perishable foods with over 6 months 'best before' dates.

The donations from our food box are collected daily and then fortnightly taken, alternately, to:

Eynsham Food bank (07738063083) and North Oxfordshire Food Bank (07929721172)

It is great to receive any donation but I would encourage those of you who can to provide a regular glean, a planned gift, to bless those in these hard times. - Why not buy something extra each week to give to the food bank?

Lastly, if you would like to support these food banks financially, or if you need some food support or know someone in need of food support please phone the food banks directly at the numbers above or contact our clergy Duncan Fraser (vicar) 07810324088 or Roger Aston (curate) 01865 880757.

Revd Roger Aston

BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOEBOX APPEAL

PLEASE BRING A SMILE THIS CHRISTMAS

This year's shoebox appeal is now operational and shoeboxes will be going to many, very needy, people in Eastern Europe. Shoeboxes can be filled with items for a girl, boy, teenager, woman, man or elderly. Leaflets on what to put in your shoebox can be found in the Food-Bank box outside St. Peter's Church. If you would like to know more about this appeal please contact Jane Aston by phoning 01865 880757 or by emailing janeaston53@aol.com.

Completed shoeboxes to be delivered to Jane Aston at 9, Bell Close, Cassington before the end of October. Please support this worthy cause.





St Peter's C.E. Primary School



Have you seen our new-look school newsletter?
It includes our latest exciting news, photos of the children at work and play and forthcoming

Please view the latest edition on our website to see what we've been up to.

https://st-peters.oxon.sch.uk/news/





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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

OCTOBER 2020

The church is open for individuals' private prayer daily.

There are clear instructions regarding the use of the church including permitted areas, and hand sanitizer is provided for everyone using the church. Social distancing will be observed for services.

Services this month Tuesdays weekly at 9.30am – Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 4th October 10am HARVEST CELEBRATION OUTDOORS

Everyone is welcome. Chairs will be provided but bring your own if you prefer.

We will be collecting <u>non-perishable</u> items with <u>at least</u> a 6-month shelf live for the Food Banks (see article Food Banks, Harvest and Gleaning).

Sunday 11th October - 9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 18th October - 9.30am Service followed by Annual Meeting for Parishioners & Annual Parochial Church Meeting

25th October - 9.30am Service of the Word (CW)

On-line streamed services are available every Sunday from 10.30am at www.stpeterschurchcassington.org or www.stpeterschurchcassing

A phone line where anyone can phone in at any time to listen to our latest services is available on **01865 965018**. There are no additional charges for those who phone in.

St Peter's church continues to pray for the community of Cassington at this difficult time. Also please know that the clergy are still available at the end of the phone (or by email) for any pastoral concerns and/or issues for prayer.

If you have particular spiritual needs feel free to contact:

The Vicar – Revd Duncan Fraser Tel: 07810 324088 or

Associate Curate – Revd Roger Aston Tel: 01865 880757

Enquiries: Church Office: email stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com

There are also resources on the Church of England web site: https://www.churchofengland.org/

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST PETER, EYNSHAM

Serving the Hanboroughs, Freeland, Cassington, South Leigh, Stanton Harcourt, Sutton and Northmoor.

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 frmartinflatman@gmail.com

Address: Abbey Street, Eynsham OX29 4HR

Phone: 01865 881613

Website: www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk

On the Website you can click on Newsletter to see more details of Covid Regulations with a

message from Father Mark and also see Father Martin's weekly Homily/Sermon on YouTube.

Our Church is OPEN FOR PUBLIC MASS but only on Saturday night at 5.00pm and Sunday morning at 10.00am.

Everyone has to be masked and appropriate hygiene and social distancing measures are in place with stewards on duty to make sure everyone keeps to the Regulations. Capacity is limited so the Church only opens 15 minutes before each Mass and it is possible that if you come at the last minute there might not be room for you.







An update from us...

Blenheim Art Foundation have unveiled a major solo exhibition inside the Palace by acclaimed British Artist Cecily Brown. Running until 3rd January and free for all Annual Pass holders, the exhibition is comprised entirely of new work created in response to the Palace's history as an English country estate.

During lockdown Richard from our Estate Team had the idea to turn a disused piece of Estate land into a chaos vegetable garden with the help of local farmers and gardeners, including CoVeg. His first harvest was donated to local cause Waste2Taste, and was made into delicious, healthy meals for those in need.

The new collection at Park View, Woodstock is launching this October, including our first Shared Ownership and Affordable Rental homes in this new community. To be the first to see the new collection, visit blenheimestate.com/parkview and sign up to our mailing list.

Make sure to keep an eye out on our website for some spook-tacular activities this October Half Term!

Palace, Park & Gardens Now Open. Buy One Day, Get 12 Months Free*
For the latest news and updates visit blenheimpalace.com



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*Committee on Climate Change, February 2019

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Tracey and Emma BREAD & BUTTER CAFÉ

Observation

by Stephen Wright

The football season is back in full swing, meaning my mood throughout the week is dictated by eleven millionaires over whom I have no control. Our 2020/21 season began with a trip to Kenilworth Road to face Luton Town.

I'm not sure if any of you readers have ever been to Luton Town, but it's quite a strange stadium, and by strange I mean terrible. It's bizarrely located, so you find yourself walking around a housing estate with the entrance to the ground down someone's back garden.

Once inside, things don't get much better. Cobwebs adorn the press box and low-roofed toilets to act as a 'welcome back down to Earth from the Premier League you spoiled brat', while one stand appears to be falling apart with little desire to fix it.

To make matters worse, we lost 3-1, but thankfully I redeemed the weekend by visiting some friends from university in London. These are the friends I have alluded to previously, who live in Earlsfield and visit swans as part of their daily routine.

We naturally visited the local boozer and felt worse for wear the next day, before I almost missed my coach back to Norwich because I was too busy playing Mario Kart.

To bring you up to the time of writing, today I worked at Norwich City 2-2 Preston North End - a significant game because 1,000 fans were allowed inside Carrow Road for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

Having the fans back, after visiting soulless stadia for the last few months, felt surreal and even emotional, with chants such as 'is this a library' being sarcastically sung on the terraces.

Just being able to hear them abuse the referee and say how much the opposing players are terrible - the irresponsible behaviour brings back a sense of normality.

While the enjoyment of my job can be swung by footballers, my housemate Christie has to put up with irritating customers at the Cosy Club restaurant where she works. I haven't seen her much lately, but I hear her most nights coming through the front door and sighing, so I don't blame her for choosing to move away.

At least she's not the only one with difficulties to overcome; I began using sudocrem to try to improve my skin condition over lockdown and it worked quite well. My mum sent me back to Norwich with a new tub, but apparently didn't realise that it was the variety of sudocrem exclusive to nappy rash treatment, which I've been rubbing all over my face.

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THANK YOU!

We are certainly not short of wonderful examples in Cassington of friends and neighbours who have gone the extra mile in support of others in this extraordinary year. It shouldn't come as a surprise really, given the warm and wonderful community of which we are privileged to be a part. Let's face it, in 'normal times' - if we can remember that far back - we've been able to come together as a community for so much. We've had the advantage of St Peter's school and St Peter's church. We've socialised together at 'The Red Lion' and 'The Chequers', not to mention regularly eaten our way around the Cassington safari! We've used the sports facilities and the play equipment on the field. We've attended Cassington Café, any number of classes and activities, and watched films, theatre and panto in the village hall. Furthermore, as if this wasn't enough, we've been able to hire the facilities of the village hall and the pavilion for our own significant celebrations over the years.

Now that the children are back at school, the students are returning to university and we are being encouraged to return physically to the workplace, there is at least a sense that things are tentatively moving on, although of course fears

around a second wave of Covid-19 remain. So, as we cautiously watch our community re-opening some of its previously closed doors it might be a good opportunity to thank all those in the village, including those on or associated with the many committees, who are making this possible. They so often have the unenviable task of attending zoom or socially distanced meetings, keeping on top of relevant health and safety regulations, ever-changing government guidelines (and all of the extensive documentation that goes with that) and then have to be creative and innovative within the inevitable compromise.

So often, much of the time and effort of individuals goes unnoticed and this article is initially prompted by the sterling work of Kathryn Teal, the booking secretary of the Village Hall whose meticulous commitment over the last few months towards opening the village hall safely and effectively has been very evident to those on the committee.

Do you know of anyone else who has perhaps gone unnoticed yet is making a significant difference within the community? Perhaps we could hear about them in future issues of CAWN. For now though, thank you Kathryn.



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01865 881440

manager@churchfieldscarehome.co.uk www.churchfieldscarehome.co.uk





Parish Council News

Previous Parish Council minutes can be found online at http://www.wospweb.com/site/Cassington-Online/Parish-Council.htm

The Parish Council had a very brief meeting in September.

Website. The Parish Council have decided on a format for the web site. It will be a comprehensive site which will be available for village groups to add content. It is hoped that over the coming months the website will be up and running. The Clerk would be pleased to receive high resolution images of the village to add to the website.

Tree Planting. Two flowering cherry trees will be planted on the land in Church lane that has recently been cleared and seeded

Dog Waste. This continues to be problem. The Parish Council has not received any reports on offenders

War Memorial. The Parish Council are looking to raise funding via the precept which will mean a slight increase next year. The clerk is investigating possible other sources of funding.

Land in Church Lane. The area has been mowed for the first time and an order placed for posts to be erected roadside to her. match those outside residences opposite.

Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council are looking to produce a local plan for the village. It will be independent of the Parish Council and will require volunteers to join Cllr Barbara King, 9 St Peter's Close the group. Independent guidance will be available through OALC.

TV Licence expired? Direct debit cancelled?

This article aims to share the one of the common online or email scams in the UK, TV licence fraud and what you can do if it has affected you.

Some people receive an email, text message or letter from account that claims your direct debit is cancelled and unless you make an immediate payment your TV licence is cancelled. The email suggests it has your licence number and 'click here' to make a payment. These emails can look very convincing and make you believe it to be true.

But before you click do check the official website for help and advicethe information below is copied from the official website.

https://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/faqs/FAQ288

What are the main things to look out for?

Genuine TV Licensing emails include your name and/or part of your postcode. Many scams simply use your email address or say 'Dear Customer'.

We send our emails from donotreply@tvlicensing.co.uk (or donotreply@spp.tvlicensing.co.uk).

September 2020

Cassington Parish Council Public Zoom Meeting Thursday 8th October at 7.30pm

You are invited to attend a Cassington Parish Councils first Zoom meeting.

An agenda will be published on the notice board 4 days before the meeting

If you are unable to make the meeting but wish to make a comment please email me at cassingtonclerk@gmail.com

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4238322327?pwd=b1FvVit6a GJOZ28renFxO1BaN2ltZz09

> Meeting ID: 423 832 2327 Passcode: 6PuAqb

Please note that everyone will be muted on entrance to the meeting. This is so only one person can talk at a time otherwise no one will be able to hear what's being said.

If you would like me to email you the invitation please contact me on the email address above.

> We hope you can join us. Cassington Parish Council

The clerk continues to deal with the day to day matters and if any residents have a question please do not hesitate to contact

Clerk contact details Email cassingtonclerk@gmail.com Tel 01993 622750

Chairman: Cllr. Hugh Thomas, 20 The Green Cllr. Julie Perrin, Triwood, 44 Eynsham Rd Cllr. Dave Butlin, The Squirrels, Bell Lane Cllr Chris Metcalf, 2 The Tennis

Check the email address. Scammers often hide the true email address they're using. On your device, select the sender's name (or email address) to show the actual email address.

Have you recently tried to sign up to our 75+ Plan and have a received a letter about your Direct Debit which asks you to call us on 0300 790 6146 or 0300 790 6070? This is a genuine letter from TV Licensing. There's nothing to worry about.

If you have received a suspicious email you can report this scam email and other scam emails. Please forward any suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk and they will investigate. If the email links to a scam website it will be taken down or blocked.

Already entered your personal details on a suspicious site? Report it to Action Fraud or call them on 0300 123 2040. If this included card or bank account details, talk to your bank immediately.

Stay safe.....





THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2020

This year Remembrance Sunday falls on 8th November.

Unfortunately, as the situation appears at the time of writing, Covid-19 restrictions

will prevent us making the usual house to house collection for the Poppy Appeal this year. We hope to be able to place collection points and poppies inside the usual premises with the agreement of the owners.

Unless things change, The Royal British Legion will not permit us to have the usual parade with our Branch Standard at the village war memorial service on Remembrance Sunday this year.

If we receive any information that changes the situation we will announce it on the village notice boards and if in time, in the November edition of CAWN.

Mike Randle Hon. Secretary R.B.L. Cassington

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RECYCLING MADE EASY

Salt Cross Garden Village Draft Area Action Plan (AAP)

You will be aware that land to the north of the A40 near Eynsham is allocated for development in the West Oxfordshire Local Plan in the form of a new garden village. Known as 'Salt Cross,' the garden village will be led by a new Area Action Plan (AAP). The District Council has now prepared a final draft version of the AAP which it proposes to submit to the Secretary of State for independent examination. Before the AAP can be submitted, it must be published for a statutory period of public consultation which is running for 8-weeks from Friday 28th August 2020 until Friday 23rd October 2020

The draft AAP and a range of supporting documents have been published on the Council's website at www.westoxon.gov.uk/gardenvillage Paper copies will be made available in the following libraries which have re-opened following the Covid-19 crisis: Carterton Library, Chipping Norton Library, Eynsham Library, Witney Library and Woodstock Library.

For information on library opening times please visit: https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/leisure-and-culture/libraries/reopening-libraries. Should more libraries re-open during the 8-week consultation period, paper copies will be made available in those locations accordingly.

We would very much welcome your comments on the draft AAP and these can be made in writing, or by way of electronic communications.

The options for responding are set out below.

Online: register at http://planningconsultation.westoxon.gov.uk By completing and returning the AAP standard response form which can be downloaded at westoxon.gov.uk/gardenvillage By sending an email to policy@westoxon.gov.uk By writing to Planning Policy Team, West Oxfordshire District Council, Elmfield, New Yatt Road, Witney, OX28 1PB

As the consultation relates to the submission draft AAP, comments should be focused on three main issues; whether the AAP is 'legally compliant', whether it is 'sound' and whether the Council has complied with its statutory duty to co-operate. Further information is set out in a guidance note which is available to download at www.westoxon.gov.uk/gardenvillage

Any representations may be accompanied by a request to be notified at a specified address of any of the following:

- the submission of the AAP for independent examination under section 20 of the Act,
- the publication of the recommendations of the person appointed to carry out an independent examination of the AAP under section 20 of the Act;
- the adoption of the AAP.

All representations received will be made available to the Planning Inspectorate and to the person appointed by the Secretary of State to conduct the examination.



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Witney Blanket Hall

We are pleased to say that Witney Blanket Hall will re-open at 10am on Wednesday 26th August and will then be open every Wednesday to Saturday from 10am to 5pm

Everything is just as lovely(!) as you remember (including the safe and secure garden), and we look forward to welcoming all visitors... Old and New.

You can find more information at our new website: www. blankethall.co.uk which is being added to every day as we work to slough off this 'Time of Corona', and start to make plans for the future.

But you don't find what you are looking for on the website, do let me know.

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To order from Bonners, go to our website bonnersoxford. shop and start shopping. Alternatively, if you feel more comfortable ordering over the phone, we would be glad to hear from you. We have a large range of stock on our website, which is constantly updated as the seasons change and the produce changes with them. We also offer to deliver produce from some of our friends in the Covered Market and elsewhere in Oxfordshire alongside your Bonners order. These include products such as bread, pies and quiches, meat, cheese, flowers, fresh fish, and much more!

Especially for our friends in Cassington, we have a special code which when entered at the checkout on our online shop gets you 10% off your order. Deliveries for Cassington will be on Thursdays to the Village Hall.





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Time for a GCSE in Natural History?

Not a week goes by when we are reminded of the demise of the natural world. Usually we are transported to far flung corners of the planet, subjected to harrowing images or reports of highprofile species such as tigers or rhino's in free fall as far as their numbers and distributions go. This was certainly the case last week when the guru of natural history TV presenting (Sir David) served up a sobering reminder of the scale, pace, and causal agents of the world's biodiversity loss in his documentary "Extinction".

However, what most of us do not realise is that the situation is the same here in the UK, with scores of species only currently present at a tiny fraction of their former population size and extent. What is equally as concerning is that in the vast majority of instances, these losses are showing no signs of slowing down. Quite the contrary. They are speeding up! Whilst some optimists point to recent colonisation in the UK by a handful of species, overall, we are losing many more species than we are gaining. As a result, a quarter of UK mammals and nearly half of the birds are at risk of extinction - many within the next generation. Depending on your age, the species in such desperate decline today are the common species that you grew up with - hedgehogs, hares, bats and many birds such as tree sparrows, skylarks and grey partridge to name but a few that were part of my youth.

It is my job to think about what needs to change to begin the reversal of this scary situation and obviously it is a multi-faceted problem. But one thing I come back to time and time again is the need for us all to re-engage with the natural history of the UK. Perhaps more importantly, I feel we need some vehicle to get kids to engage with the outdoors. It is a well-researched fact that kids spend far too much time indoors (thanks Xbox and Play Station!) and are less connected to nature as a result. Let me expand upon this in a bit more detail. A recent study of a thousand 5 – 16 year olds revealed that over 80% could not identify an oak leaf, 65% had no idea what a kingfisher looked like and 22% did not know what a badger was! Consequently, we have a perfect storm brewing for the wildlife of the UK - the less we engage with it, the less we know it. The less we know it, the less we will care if it disappears.

For me, a good start would be to have a GCSE in Natural History on the school curriculum. Central to that GCSE would be classes devoted to the identification of our wildlife and the techniques that enable us to do this. This I feel is fundamental – you can only save the planet if you are first able to identify what it is that we are losing. What we might do to reverse the loss cascades from this. If you think about it, you only really form a relationship with something by giving it a name. Think about anything you "love" – a motorbike or perhaps a singer or band – it doesn't really matter. The more you know about your "love", the more you understand it, the more you cherish it, and ultimately the more you protect it.

Good progress is being made with the idea. I was recently on a panel to help shape early thinking about what a GCSE in Natural History might look like. The really good news is that the UK exam board OCR is developing a proposal for a new GCSE in Natural History! Obviously there is still some way to go and it is important that we hear from anyone with a view on this possibility – we need to make sure that we put something in place that is fit for purpose for kids, parents and teachers. If you want to let me know what you think/suggest – ping me an email (sthompson@brookes.ac.uk). For me it is simple - it is time we put nature back at the very heart of education.

Stay safe

Stew Thompson



TEA TIME TEASER

The following are well known expressions. Can you work out what they are?

- 1. Y can't T A O D N T
- 2. TMC spoil TB
- 3. TAT wait FNM
- 4. Out OTFP into TF
- 5. M H make L W
- 6. A B I T hand I W T in T B
- 7 TF of TSIM deadly TTM
- 8. TD hour IJBD
- 9. ANIA good AAW
- 10. A A A day K T D A

Answers in next month's edition.



WEST BLADON CRICKET CLUB

After our belated start to the season, WBCC have been making up for lost time. Fortunately, the weather has been on our side, and given that September has been so kind to us, we have made the decision to extend the fixture list and squeeze every last drop out of the summer. The plan, if the weather holds, is to play through until the first weekend of October, about 3 weeks later than we usually play, and lots of other clubs have made the same decision.

As for the cricket itself, it has been going rather well. We have won our last 4 competitive games on the bounce, and there have been lots of excellent individual performances. We have also been up to Herefordshire for a "mini tour". We try and tour every year to different parts of the UK, and generally play three games back-to-back on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Unfortunately, this year our tour was cancelled due to the Covid restrictions that were still in place at the time, so as some minor consolation we organised a weekend away. On the Saturday we didn't play any cricket at all. In fact, we all played golf! There are many keen (and some less keen) golfers in the club, and so day one of tour this year was a Stableford golf competition played at the lovely, if hilly, course at South Herefordshire. Well worth a visit of you are into golf and ever out that way. On Sunday, more traditional cricket tour activities resumed with a game at the

Gardening Tips

Jobs for October



- 1. Divide herbaceous perennials and cut back those that have died down
- 2. Move tender plants into a greenhouse or conservatory.
- 3. Prune climbing roses.
- 4. Renovate old lawns or create new ones by laying turf
- 5. Finish collectiing seeds to plant next year.

CASSINGTON SPORTS NEWS

The tennis nets will be coming down at the start of October to enable the MUGA to be used for football training

October Football Fixtures

3rd - Ducklington (Away)

10th - Kingham (Away ~ Cup)

17th - Aston (Home)

24th - NO GAME

31st - FC Ascott Rangers (Home)

Cassington Rangers won their home game on Sat 19th September against Chadlington Reserves 6-0.

Jason Blackman 3
Joshua Clarke 1
Nathan Prestidge 1
And an own goal.

enormously picturesque ground on the edge of Sheepscombe Village, Gloucestershire. It was an excellent afternoon of cricket, played in a very friendly but competitive manner and well worth the trip.

September also sees us play our "Clive Williams Memorial" game. Clive played for us for many years and sadly passed away, long before his time, a few seasons ago. Every year since then we have played a game for a small trophy that bears his name. The format for the day is essentially the oldest members of the club, versus the youngest, in a mini test match format of two, twenty over innings each. It is also a day when we welcome back players that have moved away, or can no longer play on a regular basis to come and have a game of cricket with us for the day, so it is always a very social occasion. The "youth" versus "experience" format, is always an interesting one, and as a member of the latter I can proudly say we manage to come out on top (just!).

As ever, we always welcome new players, of all abilities, and if you fancy giving it a go then all the details are on our website, just search for West Bladon Cricket Club, or just wander down on a Sunday and come and say hello.

https://westbladoncc.wixsite.com/cricket,

Ash Hambridge (Chairman, WBCC)

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 contact details for the NHW co-ordinators:

Eynsham Rd	Julie Perrin	07599 371930
Hollow Furlong & Manor Cl-	Rebecca Clare	07816 192493
Mill Lane & Pound Lane	Sara Bolton	07930 307298
Church Lane	Nav Dey	07989 527835
The Green & Williams Ct	Emily Osgathorp	07795 143140
Elms Rd & Foxwell Ct	Sally Britton	07962 177221
Barrow Ct	Nicola Jeeves	07930 888664
The Tennis & Bell Ln (to Bell Cl)	Vicky Thomas-Clarke	07917 403976
Bell Cl & Orchard Cl	Carol Conway	07789 534456
St. Peter Cl	Cate Sirkett	07968 720241
Lynton Ln & Bell Ln (small green)	Kathryn Teal	07964 726843
Horsemere Lane	Stacey Noton	07717 874552

Charles Mathew - Oxfordshire County Councillor charles.mathew@oxfordshire.gov.uk
01865 882205

Dan Levy - West Oxfordshire District Councillor. dan.levy@westoxon.gov.uk or 07852 748362 (mobile and whatsapp)

Village contact list		
Allotments, Cassington	01993 882590	
Bartholomew School, Eynsham	01865 881430	
St Peter's Church Cassington	01865 883325	
Chemist, Eynsham	01865 881283	
<i>Dentist</i> , 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

Information

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

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.

what's on?

Dates for your diary

Unless shown, events are in the Village Hall

October 2020

Monday 5th 4pm (venue tbc)

Thursday 8th, 7:30pm (via zoom)

Tuesday 20th

Cassington Bookworms
Parish Council Meeting
November CAWN deadline

November 2020

<u>Thursday 5th, 7:30pm</u> (tbc) <u>Friday 20th</u> Parish Council Meeting

December CAWN deadline

Cassington Bookworms

Next Meeting is on

Monday 5th October at 4pm
and will discuss

"Where the Crawdads sing"
by Delia Owens
All Welcome
For details of the venue

Phone 880740 on Sun pm or Mon am



The Oxfordshire Museum

Woodstock

We are open and we can't wait to welcome you back!

Discover the stories and treasures of Oxfordshire from mysterious Iron Age mirrors to Anglo- Saxon warriors to Victorian toys and games. The dinosaur garden will be open, but sadly the dinosaur gallery must remain closed for the present. Most of our interactives can still be enjoyed. The Museum café will be serving sandwiches and light lunches, and offering our usual delicious cakes, scones and other treats. At the moment we aren't able to provide indoor service, but there's plenty of seating outside from which you can enjoy the garden.

Wednesday – Saturday 11am – 5pm Sunday 2pm – 5pm Last admission will be 4.30pm

Our friendly staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer any queries you may have before or during your visit and we all look forward to seeing you soon.

FREE ADMISSION

T: 01993 814106

W: Oxfordshire.gov.uk/museums



@oxonmuseum





CASSINGTON WI

Meetings cancelled temporarily





Due to the Coronavirus, the Café will be closed until further notice. We send our greetings to all our friends, and will be thinking of you over the next few weeks.

Find us on (



Cassington Village Group

An informal group for anyone living or involved with Cassington village. Aything of interest can be posted such as events, tips, local news, request for information or advice or anything of interest to the local residents.

Cassington Sports and Social

Sports and social club that organises events to upkeep the field, muga, pavilion and play equipment.

Cassington Players

A page originally set up for anyone involved in the village panto Sleeping Beauty back in 2013 and subsequent productions by the village drama group.

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.

Cassington NHW

The local Neighbourhood Watch group.

Red Lion, Cassington

Proper old fashioned English public house built in 1510 with the best beer garden in the shire.

Some online correspondence about Cassington and neighbouring villages can be found on

