



CASSINGTON AND WORTON NEWS

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

WELCOME



Hello from Villanelle

Villanelle Alexandra Zeyi Hughes was born on 14th September 2020. She is the first child for Echo Feng and Steve Hughes, who live in Hollow Furlong.

Echo is from Shenyang, a city in the northeast of China, but she and her husband, Steve, have enjoyed living in Cassington for nearly 3 years. Echo is a full time PhD candidate and associate lecturer at Oxford Brookes University. Steve works as an ICT consultant for companies who are building new schools across the South of England.

In her first 5 months baby Villanelle (Vivi) has settled into village life, particularly enjoying country walks lying back watching the trees and listening to the birds, as mum, granny or dad push her in the buggy.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR A TREE?



The Parish Council are proposing to plant 6 trees on the playing fields See page 4 for further information.





Love and Kindness Trail

Thank you to all those who decorated their houses for the Love and Kindness trail. I hope it brightened up people's days seeing the hearts and rainbows around the village. Thank you to Vicky for organising it, and for the lovely collage of window displays below.

The Judges found it extremely hard, because there was such variety and clearly a lot of work had gone into them. However a decision was made and the winner is Maya and Lila and their mum Abby Jones at 21 St Peter's Close. The Judges also highly commended the displays by Leonie Hillier and family at Foxwell End and Lisa Ellis Harvey and family at Glebe Cottage.

Thank you also to all those who entered the competition to unscramble the letters and make the words: Sunshine and Rainbow.

Prizes have been distributed to the winners, runners up and all who took part. Many thanks to the generous village resident who donated money for the prizes.



Contributions should be provided by 20th of the month. Email submissions (in the body or as a Word attachment) to: **cawneditor@gmail.com**. Photographs should be supplied as separate attachments, not placed in the Word file. Typed or clearly handwritten submissions may be posted to:

Anne Luttman-Johnson, 3 Foxwell Court, Cassington, 0X29 4DW. We look forward to hearing from you.

welcome

Anne's CAWNer

Spring is on the way! The days are getting longer, the weather is warmer and perhaps an end to lockdown is in sight!

So in this, the 525th edition of CAWN, there is a focus on green issues, from gardening tips and creating habitats for bees to sustainability and an update on the allotments. I must thank Jaime Johnson, Alex Rogers, Piers Lewis and Wild Oxfordshire for their contrbutions and Jaime and Alex for the pictures of fungi.

A huge thank you also goes to Vicky Thomas-Clarke for organising the Love and Kindness trail and the prizes, and for this month's recipe. I failed to thank anyone last month, so belated thanks to Jaime Johnson for her squash soup recipe and all the other contributors.

This month we have a further installment of lan Waters' memories, as told to Steve Wright, and some lovely old photographs provided by Yvonne Wright. Thank you to them, and thank you to all those who are now sending their recollections through, so this feature will be continuing for many months. Thank you to Hugh Thomas, who suggested it as a topic.

Next month is the Easter edition. If anyone would like a message printed in this publication, then please send it to me by 20th March. This can be wishing someone a Happy Easter or a more general message of good wishes, love and support. At these difficult times we all need a bit of happiness and it seems that little messages throughout the newsletter bring joy to people. So please keep your contributions coming and together perhaps we can bring some smiles to the village.

Anne X

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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.

Census 2021: Your letter is on its way

census 2021

Households across Oxfordshire are being asked to take part in Census 2021.

Census day is on March 21, but households will now be receiving letters with online codes explaining how they can complete their forms. If you don't get one in the next couple of weeks, please get in touch with the Census contact centre. You can also request a paper questionnaire if you'd prefer to complete your Census that way.

Keep an eye on local council websites because we'll be confirming the local Census support centres in the coming weeks. Staff will offer help for people not confident online, who don't have a computer or need help completing on paper. The Census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

A successful Census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed, this could mean things like doctors' surgeries, schools and new transport routes.

All information is held securely for 100 years. Statistics are only compiled based on anonymised data. Personal information is not shared with any organisation and is never sold.

For more information, and to find out how to get help, visit census.gov.uk or call the Census national contact centre on 0800 141 2021

March stargazing highlights

March 6 - Mercury at Greatest Western Elongation.

This is the best time to view Mercury since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the morning sky.

March 13 - New Moon.

This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight.

March 20 - March Equinox.

The March equinox is when the sun is directly above the equator so there is equal amounts of day and night throughout the world. This is the first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere.

March 28 - Full Moon.

The Moon's face will be will be fully illuminated. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Worm Moon because it was the time of year when the ground would begin to soften and the earthworms would reappear. This moon has also been known as the Crow Moon, the Crust Moon, the Sap Moon, and the Lenten Moon.

Village Notices

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.



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Calling all artists

The Great Big Art Exhibition is taking place throughout the UK. Launched by Sir Antony Gormley the idea is to make an artwork and put it in your window or garden. Every 2 weeks a different artist will suggest a theme in what will be a rolling exhibition until 30th April. For further details see the organiser's website: https://firstsite.uk/

Robert Butler (Bob) 21st May 1940 – 27th Jan 2021

Rose & the family would like to thank everyone for their kind words, cards and flowers following the death of Robert (Bob), following his long battle with Prostate Cancer.

Bob & Rose moved to Cassington in 1963 and raised their family here (Steve & Sarah still live here).



Bob was a very practical man and more than doubled the size of his house as his family grew, doing most of the work himself. He was one of the main volunteer workforce that built the School pool in the 70's, and remained linked to the school over the years; firstly with his own children, and more recently a regular at the gate collecting his grandchildren, as well as helping out with Rose as reading helpers.

In the 80's he enjoyed his Sunday morning chats & jokes with villagers when selling Sunday papers from the house. He was well read and a regular in the Chequers pub quiz team as well as helping out and being on the "Cassington Bike Night" committee.

Following his diagnosis he also helped in the setting up of the Oxfordshire Prostate Cancer Support Group (OPCSG) to support other men with similar diagnosis's.

He is survived and will be greatly missed by wife Rose, children Steve, Susan & Sarah and grandchildren Emily, Thomas, Holly, Vivi, Henry & Izzy

HATE IRONING?

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

HOSPITAL TRANSPORT

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 a charge).

Hello! My name is Julie Perrin and I am Cassington's Avon Lady. If you would like a friendly 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.

DOG WALKER

Do you have a dog? Do you want it walked by a responsible 14yr old dog-owner? I am 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

'Eco Lent'

16 ways to help the environment during Lent

A friend of mine recently said about being eco-friendly; "It's more about what you don't do" and it struck me as a profound message. Particularly during the time of 'Lent', when people traditionally give something up for 6 weeks (or 'don't do' something).

This Lent, let's help fight the climate crisis, halt biodiversity loss or reduce our waste problem by changing a habit that wasn't good for Mother Nature, or doing something that is. Below I've outlined 16 ways to help the environment during Lent, to give you some ideas.

Before I jump in, however, I'd like to issue a friendly reminder: Be kind to yourself in a quest for a greener life.

1: Plant a seed

Growing a garden can be a rewarding pastime, as well as providing a bounty of sustainable food.

2: Become a second-hand buyer/borrower

There are charity shops on most high streets and 'thrifting' has become quite trendy.

3: Turn down the heat!

No one should be wearing shorts and a t-shirt inside in winter - turn the heat down and put an extra layer on.

4: Refill and Reuse

Pasta, oats, lentils - if it's dry and with a relatively long shelf-life, you can probably find a place to refill your stocks without the packaging.

5: Turn your kitchen and bathroom plastic-free From bars of solid shampoo to coconut scourers, the choices for kitchen and bathroom swaps are in vast supply.

6: **Switch to cloth wipes, nappies and menstrual pads**Cloth nappies and wipes are comfy, effective and simple to

7: Review your spending – who/what do you fund? Be particularly demanding with clothes, coffee and chocolate, where modern day slavery is still rife in the mainstream industry.

8: Swap to sustainable tovs

use (they look beautiful too).

Wooden toys, play scarves and particularly loose parts such as Grapat mandala pieces make excellent, open-ended play pieces for children.

9: Plant a tree each time you surf the web

Ecosia is a web browser, where the people behind the company plant trees each time their search engine is used.

10: Insulate your home

Outside of insulation (which may not be an option for everyone) there are many other ways you can make your home more sustainable.

11: Swap to green energy

More than a quarter of the average UK household's carbon footprint comes from the energy used at home, making it one of the best areas to make a real difference.

12: Have a use-everything-up-dinner once a week With a few herbs and spices, you'll be amazed what tast

With a few herbs and spices, you'll be amazed what tasty joy can be created from an apparently empty kitchen

13: Switch to homemade cleaning spray

Take an empty spray bottle, half-fill with tap water, top up with white vinegar and finish by adding a few drops of essential oil. This is a perfect multi-purpose spray for surface cleaning. It will clean away those germs but won't harm you or the planet.

14: Go vegan

It has been well-documented now that plant-based diets (even taking into account food miles and other elements) have a lower carbon footprint than the most sustainably-produced meat diets.

15: Become a citizen scientist!

Teaching your kids about climate change, and how to live sustainably, is one of the most impactful things you can do.

16: Sign a petition or start a campaign

Great change can come from community response. Together we are powerful!

So, as we head towards the lighter and brighter days of Spring, make a positive change for the planet this Lent by trying out one or some of these eco-friendly swaps. With six weeks of reflection and small actions, you might be surprised at what you can achieve by Easter!

To read the full article with links to helpful websites for the various changes suggested, go to: https://www.pawprint.eco/eco-blog/ways-help-environment-during-lent

Jaime Johnson

Trees on the Recreation Field

The Parish Council are proposing to plant six substantial native trees on the southern boundary next to the track that goes to Purwell farm. The Sports and Social Club have indicated their support.

It is hoped that in time the trees will fill this boundary and protect from prevailing winds and also help to enclose and better define the recreation field.

The planting is part of the Council's green initiative and a proposal has been put forward for the trees to form part of the BBC Countryfile scheme to plant 750,000 trees this year. The scheme is backed by Prince Charles and for more infomation visit https://www.plantbritain.co.uk/



The Parish Council planted four trees last autumn and with these six due to be planted shortly, this will provide ten in total. Quotes are being obtained for the supply and planting. Initial indications suggest each tree will cost £250 to £300. They will be at least 15 feet tall and will be delivered in large tubs.

The Parish Council are putting forward a proposal for sponsorship of each tree and would like families to join in this, and have commemorative plaques with their sponsored tree. If you would like to sponsor a tree, please let the clerk know.

Hugh Thomas Chair, Cassington Parish Council.



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

MARCH 2021

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.

We hope to resume in-person services in March, depending on government COVID guidelines.

9.30am Sunday 7th, 14th and 21st and Palm Sunday 28th

Services in April

2nd April 2pm GOOD FRIDAY (Meditation at the Cross)



4th April 9.30am EASTER DAY CELEBRATION

9.30am Sunday 11th, 18th, 25th April

On-line streamed services are available <u>every Sunday from 10.30am</u> at www.stpeterschurchcassington.org or www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk

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.

Do contact us if you would like details about our children's and youth work.

If you have particular spiritual or prayer needs please 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 Telephone 01865 883325 There are also resources on the Church of England web site: https://www.churchofengland.org/

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

On the Website you can click on Newsletter to see more details of Covid Regulations with a message from Father Mark and also see a weekly Homily/Sermon also showing how to view it on Youtube.

Our Church is OPEN FOR PUBLIC MASS on Saturday night at 5.00pm and Sunday Morning at 10.00am. Everyone has to be masked and hygiene and social distancing measures are in place with stewards on duty to make sure everyone keeps to the Regulations. Capacity is limited.

The Church opens 15 minutes before each Mass so it is possible that if you come at the last minute there might not be room for you. So far there has always been room for everyone.

Father Mark, the Parish Priest, still says Mass privately every weekday. You can always contact him to ask for special prayers. Just remember that you are being prayed for. You can also watch Mass from many other Churches live or recorded online.

Churchservices.tv https://www.mcnmedia.tv/ https://www.youtube.com/user/Godzdogz

Recollections of Cassington

Last month we brought you some of Ian Waters' recollections as told to his grandson Steve Wright. This month we have the second installment, talking about his experiences during the Second World War.

"I wasn't here much because I was away when I was about 15. If Oxford would have been blitzed, this is where and cousin Stan the rubbish would have been tipped.



Ian and Derek Waters with their motorbike

(the old gravel pits) I was helping take gravel to Barford Aerodrome right by Bloxham and another one on the A41. I'd been getting fourpence an hour at Hartwell's, but they paid me the London rate - ninepence an hour! I didn't know what to do with it!

"It was about December time when Japan came into the war and we got drafted into Essex. I was at a place called Bradwell by Braintree where there were loads of American aerodromes.

"We got moved back down to Feltham and that was when the bombings started. It was a Sunday night when we first saw them. I was sat outside a pub with Jackie Green who was also from Cassington. This queer thing went across the sky making a fair noise with flames coming out the back. 'Look at that poor sod, he's had it.' "He carried on towards Staines and spluttered a bit more, went down and there was a big bang. We didn't know what it was but somebody was in trouble. It was Wednesday when they told us it was

these flying bombers.



The Old Bell Inn

"I managed to get back here and started working for the Ministry of Transport. Every eight weeks I used to come home from London, late on a Friday night and you had to be back there for Tuesday morning. I used to get a bit fed up because when you've been home you didn't want to go back again.

Website Logos

Here are 3 logos that the Clerk has designed for the village website. If anyone would also like to submit a design please send it too Tracey (cassingtonclerk@gmail. co.uk) before 3rd March a decision will be made in the March Parish Council Meeting.

"Some digs (bed and breakfast) were alright and some weren't. There was one I was in with a miner. They're different altogether to us, the miners. He'd sit by the fire and the landlady would say to him, 'Harrold, go and mend that fire,' and he'd get up and chuck a bucket of coal on the fire. They had their coal all for nothing. "The grub was good there but the mess was terrible. It seemed to be wet all the time.

"One weekend I was down somewhere this side of Southend and there was a pub called The Weir. It was very similar in principle I suppose to what the Evenlode is like now and they'd have music down there and dancing. All the pubs did then. Always having a sing song. While I was down that way, I went to see Aunt Ethel.



A coach trip from the Bell to Southend in 1949!

Aunt Ethel, who was a friend of mother's, had a son more or less my age, and like his dad, he liked his music so we'd go down to The Weir. It was noisy and at ten o'clock time I'd had enough. I'd never been a dancer or anything like that, so I said 'I'm going back to your mum's house.'

Then the raid started and the guns opened up. When the guns open up, the shrapnel comes back doesn't it? All I could do was get in the shop doorway.

"I was always glad to get the 6:45 out of Paddington because then you felt safe. At Paddington you could let go of your case and it would walk along with you, it was that crowded.

"One night I was in Liverpool Street, going back to get to work in time on Monday but there was a raid on and they wouldn't let trains in or out and that was packed. You had a job to find somewhere to squat yourself down on the floor. You'd just doze off and then the police would come round wanting your identity card. People would squat down and perish with cold and if you got something to lean against you were lucky.







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Cassington Allotments

An Asset of Community Value

Throughout the winter months activity in the allotment has been at a tick over. We are still harvesting winter crops, such as celeriac, but most of us are preparing for spring by laying our plans for what we will grow later in the year, chitting potatoes, buying seed, onion sets and the tools and equipment to plant them.

However, the Cassington Allotment Association has been busy over winter. As part of our efforts to protect the Green Heart of Cassington village we applied for the allotments to become an Asset of Community Value. "What is that?" I hear you all cry. Assets of Community Value are buildings or amenities whose main use is to further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community and could do so in the future. The Localism Act states that 'social interests' include cultural, recreational and sporting interests.



What this means in reality is that the importance of the allotments to our community for recreational purposes and as a green space in the village has been recognised. In the words of West Oxfordshire District Council:

"The nomination sets out a strong case for how the current use of the allotments

land furthers the social wellbeing/ social interests of the local community. The allotments are in use and fully subscribed with a waiting list. They provide a communal meeting place, space for recreation, relaxation and physical and mental wellbeing which is free to access. Although the main use is recreational there are also cultural benefits of the space to the local community. The location of the allotments connect it to sports pitches and field and the social centre which make it an important part of the green and community infrastructure of Cassington. It also provides social benefits for the community – it is the social heart of the community enabling social interaction for the lonely and an outdoor classroom for children. It is well used by a wide cross section of ages and provides a valued area that gives access to nature/ wildlife."

In addition, should the land come up for sale in the next 5 years we, as a community, have the first rights to buy

it. So this is a tremendous step for the allotments and my thanks go out to all the members of Cassington Allotments Association, Save Cassington Allotments and all our supporters.



Why is this land so important and why could the allotments simply not be moved? Aside from the connectivity the allotments provide between the village green and the Sports Centre and fields, and its obvious convenience for



less mobile members of our community, in the centre of the village, we the villagers have worked the allotments for more than 100 years. This is not just of cultural significance for Cassington but that work, and that many of us grow organically, means that the soil of the allotments contains a rich microbiota. Perhaps thousands of miles of fungal hyphae (filaments), trillions of beneficial bacteria, protozoans, insects and other creatures enrich our soil, allow it store carbon, minerals and retain water. Plants rely on this fantastic microbial underworld to grow with health and rigour. In much the same way it has been found that humans rely on a rich and diverse microbial biome, particularly in the gut, to live healthy lives. Essentially the work of generations of villagers have created a healthy symbiosis between our vegetables and fruiting plants and the trillions of organisms living in the soil. This has also generated a rich biodiversity of wild plants and animals that cohabit the site with us. It also means that our produce is extremely nutritious.



There is more good news. Our petition on Change.org. reached 10,000 signatures on the 8th February, but if you haven't signed yet please do and encourage others who care about our villages and allotments to do so as well. Also, because of Covid we have not been able to collect remaining pledge forms so if you want to register that you are against

the Blenheim Estate Development on our allotments then please let one of the Allotment Association members know or post it through my letter box at 8 Orchard Close.

A happy spring to you all! Alex Rogers, Chair Cassington Allotments Association.

Cassington War Memorial

The Parish Council has applied to English Heritage to have the War Memorial classed as a listed monument. They have come back asking if we have any further information on the memorial that can help with their report.



If anyone has any information at all no matter how small please could they let the clerk know on Cassingtonclerk@gmail.com by 10th March



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Parish Council News

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

Parish Council meeting

The next Zoom meeting will be on March 4th at 7.30 pm. Please contact the clerk if you want to attend.

Blenheim proposal for allotment site development.

The Parish Council have not heard further from Blenheim Estates

Horsemere Lane and Cassington Lights

Work has started at the Wolvercote area of the A40. Planning permission for the Park and ride Bus lane is still being sort. The Parish Council have written again to OCC requesting information.

School crossing/20mph zone.

The clerk has been in touch with OCC regarding the rollout of this initiative and is awaiting further information.

Tree Planting Recreation field

Quotes have been received and it is hoped that a contractor can be approved at the next PC meeting. There is a separate article in this CAWN looking for sponsorship of the trees.

Parish Council work

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

Dog Waste

More signs have been put around the village and more signs have been ordered. The Parish Council approved another dog waste bin near the entrance to the track. Currently the emptying of the bins is covered by WODC. However, the emptying of the new bin will have to be paid for. The clerk is looking into this.



War Memorial.

The clerk is obtaining quotes for the remedial works.

Website.

Work in progress.

Neighbourhood Plan.

The first meeting was late in February too late for notes to be included.

February 2021

Housing needs survey

Results still to be discussed

N.B Clerk contact details Tracey Cameron Email cassingtonclerk@gmail.com Tel 01993 622750.

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

Cassington Parish Council Public Zoom Meeting Monday 4th March at 7.30pm

You are invited to attend Cassington Parish Council's 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

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ROAD CLOSURE NOTICES

LOCATION: Eynsham, Oxford Road. The closure starts at the Eynsham roundabout by the Talbot Inn and extends over the toll bridge to Farmoor.

REASON: To facilitate carriageway resurfacing / patching

DURATION: Starting on 15 March 2021. The anticipated completion date is 20 March 2021 (date included). The road will be closed for a maximum period of 2 nights within this period. This will operate between 19:00 and 05:00 (Traffic Regulation Notices cover a maximum of 5 consecutive days.)

ACCESS: Limited access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles and for frontages within the closed section of road, subject to the progress of the works

SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE ROUTE: via B4044, A420, A34, A44, A40, B4449 and vice versa

LOCATION: Bladon & Hanborough, A4095 (from : A44 Woodstock Road/Bladon Road roundabout to Lower Road, Hanborough

REASON: To facilitate carriageway patching works.

DURATION: Starting on 15 March 2021. The anticipated completion date is 19 March 2021 (date included). This will operate during 05:00–07:30, 09:30-15:30 and 18:00-20:00. (Traffic Regulation Notices cover a maximum of 5 consecutive days.)

ACCESS: Limited access for emergency service vehicles and for frontages within the closed section of road, subject to the progress of the work. Wherever there are yellow "No Waiting" cones, you will not be able to park vehicles on the highway.

SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE ROUTE: via A4095, A415, A40, A44 and vice versa



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Our tax specialists are also here to help with your personal tax compliance, including preparing personal tax returns and offering guidance on HMRC correspondence. They can also advise you on tax planning on the sale/gift of assets, including the new reporting of capital gains on the sale of private residences.

Dealing with your own affairs and getting them in order can appear daunting. We're here to make life easier. Do pick up the phone or email us and we would be happy to have a free, no-obligation initial chat with you. We can meet on video call or in person when safe to do so.





Anna Burnside PARTNER anna.burnside@theburnsidepartnership.com

lacqui Birks TAX DIRECTOR iacqui.birks@theburnsidepartnership.com

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New Features to Open as Part of a £1.9m Development Programme

Two major new exhibitions bringing the world of Winston Churchill to life and the Palace's historic stable block back to showcase the importance of horses at Blenheim down through the centuries is to open later this year.

Local volunteers plant hedgerows in Bladon

A small group of volunteers have been busy planting new hedgerows on a part of the Blenheim Estate in Bladon. We've donated the use of land and a number of saplings towards this brilliant initiative, which will see a total of 1475 saplings planted. Find out more at blenheimestate.com/news

We hope we can #stayconnected with you by sending regular e-newsletters full of recommendations and activities to keep you healthy and happy at home.

If you'd like to sign up for these e-newsletters, visit blenheimpalace.com

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To order from Bonners, go to our website www. 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.

Coupon code: CASS601



Don't forget your Mum!

14th March is Mother's Day but if you're likely to forget I'm sure the greeting card manufacturers and supermarkets will certainly remind you (even in a pandemic!).



Mothering Sunday (or mother's day as it is commonly referred to now-a-days) was a celebratory day set up by the church, not just celebrating our biological mothers but celebrating the 'mother church' and so indirectly celebrating all those who care for us.

It is more than possible for a father or sibling to care for us with a mother's love. For those who no longer have their biological mother to care for them (for whatever reason) then someone else may take on that role. Indeed, the pandemic has highlighted many disabled parents who are cared for by even young children where the children 'mother' the parents.

Mothering is not exclusively feminine nor is it exclusively human. In the Old Testament of the bible the prophet Isaiah records God's promise:

'Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne?

Though she may forget, I will not forget you!' Isaish 49:15

It is not hypocrisy to recognise that God has female as well

as male traits and that, even in these difficult times, God remembers us with a care greater than a human mother's care. The Lord says, through Isaiah, that it's almost impossible and unthinkable for a mother to forget her baby but even more impossible is it for him to forget us.

So let us remember with thanksgiving and praise all those who have mothered us and others: those no longer with us; those who care for us, and others, now - in our families in our community in hospitals and care homes; those young carers who look after disabled parents. However, let us also reflect on a God who loved us so much (with a love stronger than a mother's love) that he would send Christ to die to save us.

Revd Roger Aston

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Tips for Bee Friendly Gardening

There are lots of ways that you can make your garden friendly for wildlife. Roselle Chapman from Wild Oxfordshire shares some of her top tips:

Bee facts

250 species of bees in the UK 224 wild solitary bees 25 wild bumble bees One domesticated honey bee

Trees you can plant this winter to help pollinators

Male grey willow (sallow) Salix cinerea Goat willow Salix caprea Small-leaved lime Tilia cordata Service trees: Sorbus torminalis, Sorbus domestica Apple Malus sp - any, fruit bearing, or ornamental Cherry Plum - Prunus cerasifera Wild Hawthorn - Crataegus monogyna/laevigata

Gardening tips

Leave the dead plant stems over winter. Hollow stems may be used by bees for over wintering.

Provide flowers throughout the year – some bees emerge as early as February.

Buy organic to ensure bulbs and plants haven't been treated with neonicotinoids.

Have a flowering lawn.

Provide a source of water for bees.

Leave a patch of bare earth – mason bees gather mud to build egg cells.

Include a variety of flower shapes – different species have different tongue lengths.

More information can be found:

https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/communities/resources/ For more information go to the Wild Oxfordshire website, where you can sign up for their free monthly Environmental Bulletin.

https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/communities/resources/

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Recipe of the Month

The last year of lockdown has seen many of us change the way we shop and eat and plan our meals. Some days we have needed to be extra inventive to make best use of what's available. Like many, we also enjoyed exploring new way of sourcing food during this time, be it from the weekly fresh produce delivered to the village or from local farmers directly selling their eggs and meat.

Of course, food brings with it so much more than nourishment to our bodies and mind. Interwoven into each meal is history & culture and the ability to provide love to those around us. Familiar and family recipes become like giant hugs from someone you love, that can wrap you up and take you back to times past and also allow these memories to live on into the future.

Therefore when asked to contribute towards this article, I thought it only right to share with you one of our family favourites - Chicken Surprise! The surprise being, although the ingredients can vary (to suit your fridge contents & your dinner guests preferences), it always had the same satisfying and consistent effect to warm and fill up tummy and hearts!

<u>Ingredients</u> – Serves 4/6 (if cooking for two – half the ingredients and you will have some leftovers, see below)

- Chicken 800g (breasts, thighs or legs, all work equally well)
- Vegetable oil (to coat the bottom of your pan)
- 100g (6-8 strips) Streaky smoked Bacon
- Onion one small size (or shallots or even spring onions)
- Celery 3 sticks approx. (swap for fennel or carrot)
- 2 cloves of garlic
- Plain flour to dust approx. 2 tablespoons
- 2 tins of tomatoes (chopped or plum)
- One small glass 125ml dry sherry (or dry white wine)
- Stock cube (chicken or vegetable)
- Extras carrots, mushrooms, peas, spinach, olives whatever suits or you have available

Recipe:

- Peel and chop into chunky pieces the onion, celery and garlic.
- Whizz up in food processor to form a finely chopped mixture. If you don't have a food processer, chop as finely as you can. If you have one, it is worth getting the food processor out for this process, as it produces a really fine mix which gives a lovely texture to the finished sauce. It is also a great way to bump up the veg content of this dish, so feel free to add extra vegetables e.g. carrot, fennel or even mushrooms, at this point.
- Heat oil in pan to medium heat and add the vegetable mix and slowly start to cook through.
- After a few minutes, the mixture will take on a warm yellow / green hue, as the veg cooks out and the flavours mix.
- Add the bacon, which should be cut into small strips.
- Once the bacon begins to colour, remove all the mixture and place into a large ovenproof dish
- Cut the Chicken pieces into equal sizes and dust with seasoned flour
- Fry the chicken pieces in the pan used for the vegetables and bacon. Turning the pieces to give good colour to all sides. It is best to do this in a couple of batches rather than overfill the pan and make turning and achieving even colour hard.
- Add the chicken pieces once browned to the oven proof dish.

- Turn down the heat and slowly add the Sherry to the pan. This will bubble and then begin to deglaze the pan.
- Pour the sherry and juices onto the chicken in the dish
- Add two tins of tomatoes to dish to cover chicken. You can clean out the tins with a little water and add to the dish.
- Or add a small wine glass / 125ml of water and a stock cube
- You can add chopped carrot or mushrooms, spinach, peas, chard or even olives whatever you have available.
- Give all a good mix and ensure chicken is covered with sauce
- Check seasoning of sauce and add salt and pepper to taste.
- Place dish into preheated oven 200c for 35-40mins, checking and stirring half way through to cover chicken pieces with sauce
- Remove from oven and let stand for 5-10 mins before serving

Serving

Great with roast potatoes, mash, new potatoes, rice, or couscous. Or try taking a garlic baguette and pop slices on

top of the dish for the last 12-15mins, maybe even add some cheese on top.

<u>Leftovers</u>

Any leftover sauce is great with pasta and you can add crème fraiche or cream cheese to stretch a bit further or to disguise as something new.





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*Committee on Climate Change, February 2019



Gardening Tips for March



- Prune winter shrubs and roses back to 3/4.
- Prune Budlias and Mallows back by 1/2 to reduce wind rock.
- Tidy up herbaceous beds of all leaves and any plant die back from last season.
- Cut back all Hellebore leaves to show off those flowers.
- Finish raking up the leaves off the lawn in readiness for scarifying and feeding.
- Clean out the glass house and clean the windows in readiness for seed planting.
- Order compost, seeds, plant food, string and flexi tie.
- Make sure all climbers are tied in so nothing will rock and snap in the winter winds.
- Look at your water storage, water butts, buckets anything to help gather winter water ready for next season.
- Preasure wash the patio.
- Dig over veg patches and put on farm yard manure.
- Order your fruit plants, black, red and white currents.
- Even blackberry, tayberry and loganberry. These are all great additions to your plot.
- Start feeding indoor plants and adding extra water as they will begin to wake up.
- Look at possible wild life corners in your garden, consider letting a patch revert back to mother nature and see what plants and wildlife come back
 - By Piers Lewis, Garden Consultant.

TEA TIME TEASER

The following are expressions and sayings with a theme of the natural world? Can you work out what they are?

- 1. T Make A M O O A M
- 2. L For A N I A H
- 3. A B I T Hand I W T In T B
- 4. D Count Y C B T H
- 5. T E B Catches T W
- 6. B O A F Flock T
- 7. T Beat A T B
- 8. T Go O A W G C

Answers next month

Answers to last month's love song lyrics:

- 1. I Feel Wonderful Because I See The Love Light In Your Eyes. "Wonderful Tonight" by Eric Clapton
- 2. There's No Love Like Your Love And No Other Can Give Me More Love. "(Everything I Do) I Do It For You" by Bryan Adams
- 3. Never Before Has Someone Been More Unforgettable. "Unforgettable" by Irving Gordon, sung by Nat King Cole
- 4. Cause All Of Me Loves All of You. "All of Me" by John Legend
- 5. How Sweet It Is To Be Loved By You. "How Sweet It Is (To Be Loved By You)" by Marvin Gaye and covered by James Taylor
- 6. I Hope You Don't Mind That I Put Down In Words How Wonderful Life Is While Your In The World. "Your Song" by Elton John and Bernie Taupin
- 7. Look At The Stars, Look How They Shine For You And Everything You Do. "Yellow" by Coldplay
- 8. If You Fall I Will Catch You, I'll Be Waiting...Time After Time. "Time after time" by Cyndi Lauper and Rob Hyman

St Peter's School

At St Peter's we are continuing to keep busy and sharing what we are all doing on our blog:



https://st-peters-cofe-primary-school-cassington.secure-primarysite.net/lockdown-wont-keep-us-down-21/

We have videos of collective worship, assemblies, and photos of the children doing all kinds of fun and exciting things. We also have some fun ideas for lockdown if you or your children are lacking inspiration.

Please visit regularly and if you feel so inclined, we would love to see any contributions that you wish to send. Please email the office at: office.3651@st-peters.oxon.sch.uk

Jon Jeffries Headteacher

Unlocking...

Minds that learn, Hearts that love, Faith that gives

W.I. MEETING

This month's W.I. meeting via Zoom was treated to a very interesting talk delivered by Nigel Appleton about the work he, and various others from his church, are doing in Zambia. It was prompted by a member of his congregation - Wyn Cornish. She was born in Eaton in 1924 and read English and History from 1942-45. She became a teacher in 1946. She volunteered for the Methodist Ministry and was sent to Zambia in 1972, where she became the founding head of a school for black girls.

Rosemary Mg'ombe was born in 1942. Aged 14 her father wanted her to marry, but her mother had other plans, and smuggled her to the school, where Wyn was her house mother as well as her teacher. Rosemary married Max in 1965 and they had five children together. She became deputy head of the school, by which time it had 1000 pupils. Sadly, Max was diagnosed with cancer and she gave up work to become his carer. After his death she moved to Lusaka, which was near her brother and his wife, where she rented a small house of three rooms and started a school with 2 pupils. Eventually more students arrived, and when she provided lunch the numbers increased further.

After meeting Wyn on a visit to Cumnock in 2005 she returned to set up a programme for pre-school to grade 12, and an awards system for further education, to provide qualifications for tradesmen to lawyers and medics, and all professions in between. The school continues to grow and expand, and has changed the lives of so many young people.

Our next meeting on 25th March will be our A.G.M. which will probably be via Zoom again. Stay safe everyone and we can hopefully meet then, electronically.

Maggie Nightingale

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what's on?

Dates for your diary

March 2021

Thursday 4th 7:30pm (via zoom)

Sunday 14th

Saturday 20th

Thursday 25th (via zoom)

Sunday 28th

Parish Council Meeting

April CAWN deadline

WI AGM

Clocks go forward

April 2021

Thursday 1st 7:30pm (tbc)
Sunday 4th
Tuesday 20th
Parish Council Meeting
Easter Day
May CAWN deadline

Sports & Social Club

Please do get in touch if you would like to hire the Pavilion, the playing field or the MUGA, or know of other sports teams that need a place to train or play.

Cassington Sports and Social club pavilion hire prices.

W	/eekdays 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 for all enquiries and bookings cassingtonsport@millsclan.force9.co.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			
<i>Library,</i> 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 cassingtonvillageh	all@gmail.com			

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS



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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

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) (landscape) 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.

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

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

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 Frlg & Manor Cl-	Julie Perrin	07599 371930
Mill Ln & Pound Ln	Sara Bolton	07930 307298
Church Lane	Nav Dey	07989 527835
Green & Williams Ct	Della Thompson	07498 646192
Elms Rd & Foxwell Ct	Sally Britton	07962 177221
Barrow Ct	Nicola Jeeves	07930 888664
The Tennis & Bell Ln	Vicky Thomas-Clarke	07917 403976
Bell Cl & Orchard Cl	Carol Conway	07789 534456
St. Peter Cl	Cate Sirkett	07968 720241
Lynton Ln & Bell Ln	Kathryn Teal	07964 726843
Horsemere Lane	Stacey Noton	07717 874552