



DECEMBER 2021 (#534)

CASSINGTON AND WORTON NEWS

Previous editions can be found at www.cassington-pc.gov.uk



THE CASSINGTON TORNADO!

On 31st October 2021 parts of Cassington experienced a freak weather condition when a category 3 Tornado swept through the village. Trees were uprooted, roofs came off and walls fell down. Luckily no one was injured and it was so heartening to see the way everyone responded to this calamity. Messages of concern and support were sent and posted on the village facebook page.



Here at CAWN we want to say a big thank you to everyone who helped with the clearing up and we send our thoughts and best wishes to those of you who are now having to fix damaged buildings and deal with insurance companies! Please see page 7 for a full report on this dramatic event.



Cassington Advent Windows 2021



We hope you enjoyed last years windows and will enjoy a walk around the village either each day as a new window appears or in one go to walk off Christmas dinner!

We hope you have fun spotting the windows and enjoying the displays – thank you to those taking part again this year. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a very happy and healthy new year.

Wed 1st December	St Peters Church
Thurs 2nd December	7 Hollow Furlong
	(window can be seen from Williams Close)
Fri 3rd December	20 St Peters Close
Sat 4th December	Slocken, The Green
	(by the war memorial)
Sun 5th December	6 The Tennis

Mon 6th December	
Tues 7th December	
Wed 8th December	
Thurs 9th December	
Fri 10th December	
Sat 11th December	
Sun 12th December	
Mon 13th December	
Tues 14th December	
Wed 15th December	
Thurs 16th December	
Fri 17th December	
Sat 18th December	
Sun 19th December	
Mon 20th December	
Tues 21st December	
Wed 22nd December	
Thurs 23rd December	
Fri 24th December	

3 Foxwell Court, Yarnton Road
Cassington Village Hall
(decorated by Tots and Tinies)
Willow Cottage, Bell Lane
2 The Tennis, back window
St Peters School
Trewavas, Bell Lane
The Chalet, Bell Lane
The Red Lion
Elmore, Yarnton Road
7 Bell Lane
Churchfields Care Home,
Pound Lane
15 St Peters Close
Bell Cottage, Horsemere Lane
3 Barrow Court
5 Barrow Court
13 Elms Road
8 Bell Close
9 Orchard Close
Stork Cottage
(opposite the War memorial)

Contributions should be provided by 20th of the month. Email submissions (in the body or as a Word attachment) to: cawnceditor@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 Luttmann-Johnson, 3 Foxwell Court, Cassington, OX29 4DW. We look forward to hearing from you.

welcome

Anne's CAWNeR

Welcome to the 534th edition of CAWN. As we all prepare for the seasonal festivities I hope you enjoy reading all the Christmas messages throughout this edition.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this edition, in particular Stewart Thompson for his two articles, the school and the SPSA for details of their activities and plans and TORRO for their report on the Tornado. Thank you also to Ruth Bakewell and James Gerrans for the Christmas cocktail and to Amanda Fancourt for her suggestion for the tea time teaser.

On page 7 you will find a notice about the draft neighbourhood plan report. This will be on the village website from 10th December. Please do read and comment on it before 18th February 2022, when the consultation period ends.

Please remember the copy date for the January newsletter is early, so the edition can be printed before Christmas. Please can you get your contributions to me by Tuesday 14th December.

Finally many thanks to Kath Humphris for organising the Advent Windows which we can all enjoy throughout December.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a joyous and peaceful new Year.

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 News.

Rotary Club Eynsham



Christmas Santa

Due to the continuing situation with Covid, we have decided not to take Santa on tour around the streets of local villages, but we have not abandoned him completely.

Santa and his sleigh will be attending the Eynsham Primary School Christmas event on 26th November and Lighting Up Eynsham on 3 December. We hope to attend various other school events and are planning to escort Santa to various strategic locations in and around Eynsham and villages where he will be happy to see as many children (of all ages!) as possible.

Details of when and where you can find him will be published in Eynsham Online nearer the time. We will be collecting for international and local charities such as Yellow Submarine, the Day Centre and our local schools.

P.S. – Santa is looking for new quarters for his sleigh and reindeer. If anyone has, or knows of a space about the size of a small caravan, preferably under cover, in or around the Eynsham area that could be made available please do get in touch with Terry Glossop terryglossop@hotmail.co.uk.

December stargazing highlights

December 4- Total Solar Eclipse.

Limited to Antarctica and the southern Atlantic Ocean.

December 13 and 14 - Geminids Meteor Shower.

The Geminids is considered by many to be the best shower in the heavens, producing up to 120 multicolored meteors per hour at its peak. The shower peaks this year on the night of the 13th and morning of the 14th. The moon will block out most of the fainter meteors this year. But the Geminids are so numerous and bright that this could still be a good show. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Gemini, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

December 19 - Full Moon.

The Moon's face will be fully illuminated. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Cold Moon because this is the time of year when the cold winter air settles in and the nights become long and dark. This moon has also been known as the Long Nights Moon and the Moon Before Yule.

December 21 - December Solstice.

This is the first day of winter (winter solstice) in the Northern Hemisphere.

December 21, 22 - Ursids Meteor Shower.

The Ursids is a minor meteor shower producing about 5-10 meteors per hour. The shower peaks on the the night of the 21st and morning of the 22nd. The nearly full moon will block all but the brightest meteors. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Ursa Minor, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

The Poppy Appeal

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



The Poppy Appeal collection in Cassington and Worton this year realised £1,123.32 a most commendable amount for a village the size of Cassington.

The Legion is extremely grateful to the many people who gave so generously. As usual, our Poppy Appeal Organiser Clare Want undertook the donkey work involved in making the Appeal such a success.

We would like to express our special thanks to all the collectors who make it possible by visiting every house and establishment in the village. We would also like to thank the establishments who agreed to have collecting boxes on their premises.

The service at the war memorial on Remembrance Sunday was particularly very well attended. People were pleased to see "resumption of normal service" with the easing of Covid restrictions. As seems to have become our fortunate norm over several years now, we were blessed with a pleasant, if slightly chilly, autumn day. As usual, Janet Bushnell provided the accompaniment and Alan Aston the traditional stirring trumpet calls.

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

BOXING DAY FOOTBALL MATCH

As things currently stand, we are hoping that the traditional Boxing Day football match can be played with a kick-off time of 10:30. If you want to play for the marrieds (and we need the players believe me) or the singles then please come along with boots and shin pads ready to play.

All are welcome as long as you are over 16 (football ability is optional). Obviously keep an eye on government guidelines as well as Village social media pages where we will keep you posted about this fixture.



Merry
Xmas to all our friends
in Cassy and beyond. 2021 has
been another toughie for us all but we
showed togetherness and resilience that
makes us proud to call you friends.
Graham, Lorna, Aaron, Aiden
and Cookie xx



To
all our friends and
neighbours in Cassington and
Worton, Wishing you a very Merry
Christmas and a fabulous New Year, lots
of love from Caroline, Neil, Abbie &
Tom (donation made to Macmillan
Cancer Support)



Our
best ever wishes to all
our Cassington friends for a superb
Christmas and a lovely New Year,
from the Fancourt family.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS & CHRISTMAS TABLE ARRANGEMENTS



Don't forget a Christmas table arrangement (£15) or a Christmas wreath or graveside wreath (£25) for a loved one

Thank you



Ruth xx
TEL 07768 450095
ruth.bakewell@googlemail.com

CHURCHFIELDS CARE HOME CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday the 4th of December 2pm - 4pm

Cassington Village Hall

Everyone welcome: the more the merrier.

Stalls already booked include:
Homemade jams and chutneys
Wax melts
Soaps
Homemade cakes



Tea, coffee and mulled wine available.

Christmas Market Combe Mill OX29 8ET

Saturday 11 December
Open 11.00 ~ 16.00 hrs



Enjoy a wide range of
market stalls to complete
your seasonal present
buying

All funds raised will go to Combe Mill Society's
charitable aims of community education

For children - listen to a 'story with Santa'

Contact events@combemill.org or telephone 01993 358694 for more details
Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe, Oxfordshire OX29 8ET



St. Peters Church Cassington Bell Ringing Team

As many of you will know there are 6 bells in the tower at St. Peters Church, Cassington. At a stretch, we have a total of 6 ringers, with very gracious help on occasions from 2 ringers from St. Leonards at Eynsham. We also have one "trainee"!

It is proving very difficult to field a full team for ringing the bells prior to Sunday morning services. As you will appreciate the current team have many other commitments both for Thursday evening training sessions and Sunday morning services. So, we are publishing this PLEA!!

Can anyone please consider joining the team (maybe past ringers), or are there any "volunteers" who would consider joining the team and being prepared to turn up on Thursday evenings at 7.00pm for training sessions? We can offer lots of help, both here at Cassington and other venues in the Diocese where training sessions are available.

Bell ringing is fun, and the current team very much enjoy the activity and the fellowship of the sessions. We are not asking for full commitment at this stage, but just an interest in joining us on a Thursday evening to see what is involved in the activity of bell ringing, experience the fun that we enjoy, and see if this appeals to you?

PLEASE do give this request some consideration, and get in touch with us if you would like more information, or hopefully be prepared to come along on a Thursday evening to see for yourselves what we have to offer!! I can promise you, that we do have fun, and that the art of ringing is a very worthwhile activity, with rewarding results.

Looking forward to a good response from Cassington Residents, we await your contact. Please get in touch with our Tower Captain Keith Turner on 01865 880492 or Bryan Partridge (team member) on 01865 731253.

Thank you very much in anticipation of your response.
BRYAN PARTRIDGE.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Could you spare an hour or two every few weeks to help clean the church. We need 2 people every week to clean the church on a rota basis. The more volunteers we have the fewer occasions your stint will come round!

If you are interested please contact Ninon Linnell on 01865 881330 or at ninonlinnell@gmail.com

Mike and Ninon send festive greetings to all their friends in Cassington and Worton and wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful 2022. Individual cards will not be sent but a donation will be made instead to various charities



*Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
Ron and Jan Macdonald*



*Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all our friends.
Helen, Adie & Family.*

*Wishing everyone in Cassington a very Happy Christmas.
Stephen, Hazel, Lorna and Richard*



Food Bank

Are you needing some help?



Are you, or someone you know, finding it hard to provide good healthy food for the family each day?

If so, the Eynsham food bank can give you support with regular food supplies.

We are here to help.

Please contact the food bank directly and confidentially by phoning Bob Thiele 07738063083 or via Revd Duncan Fraser 07810324088 or Revd Roger Aston 01865 880757.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST PETER, EYNHAM

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

Masses at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Eynsham

Saturday (For Sunday) 5pm. Sunday 10am.

Face coverings required with social distancing.

For details of weekday Masses please visit the parish web page <https://stpeterseysham.org.uk/>

Contact details:-Parish Priest: Fr Mark Lagorio

Tel: 01865 881613

Email : stpeterschurcheysham@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Representative:

Eric White eric_white@yahoo.co.uk

For details on Covid-safe worship, other news, and links for live screening, please visit the parish web page.

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>



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.

DECEMBER 2021

The church is open for individuals' private prayer daily.

Please follow the instructions in the porch regarding the use of hand sanitizer and masks.

We look forward to welcoming you to any of our services. In order to continue to provide a safe environment we encourage the use of the hand sanitizer provided when entering and leaving the building. We also respectfully ask you to wear face masks in church other than when seated or standing in the pews. A safer area with better ventilation, stricter use of masks and social distancing rules is available at the rear of the church if you are or are anxious about being more vulnerable.

Sunday 5th Dec
9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 12th Dec
9.30am Holy
Communion(BCP)

Wednesday 15th Dec
2.30pm Carol Service at
Churchfields

Carol Service
Sunday 19th December 5pm
Celebrate the birth of Jesus
with carols and bible readings.

PLEASE NOTE that this year seats need to be reserved in advance for the Carol Service due to restricted capacity. Book at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/214604015387 or via the church office.

**At the heart
of Christmas**



**Christmas Eve Communion at
Churchfields 11.30am**

Christmas Eve 'Crib' Service
Friday 24th December 3pm
A short child-friendly service with
activities.

Midnight Communion
Friday 24th December 11.30pm
First communion of Christmas.

Christmas Day Celebration
Saturday 25th December 9.30am
Traditional Christmas service in
church.

**Sunday 26th December- 6pm Evening
Prayer with Carols**

**Advance Notice – Tuesday Holy Communion (BCP) recommences monthly
from 11th January 2022 at 9.30am (second Tuesday of the month).**

Church office: stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com 01865 883325

Vicar: Revd Duncan Fraser 07810 324088 . Associate Curate–Revd Roger Aston Tel:01865 880757

When cutting glass, “measure twice and cut once”.

If you've ever had to cut a pane of glass you will know that it's not as easy as the professionals make it look but, with a bit of practice and a large, new, pane of glass you can be successful. But, one thing that is really very difficult is to trim a piece off the edge (particularly if the glass is old) and, if you cut it too small you can't make it bigger! Hence the rule “measure twice cut once”. Don't try to trim.

Often people try to trim Christ out of Christmas. Maybe with Christmas cards that just have a snowman or a robin or Santa. - Don't get me wrong, I love receiving cards from family and friends regardless of the picture on the front – it's the words that are written inside that are important. (And some “religious” cards can be really tacky!)

However, there are a couple of other ways that people try to trim Jesus out of Christmas which are slightly ironic. Firstly, the use of “Xmas” and the Americanism of “Happy holiday”.

The cross of “Xmas” reminds me that the reason for the birth of the Christ child was not only for him to grow up as

Emmanuel (which means God with us) but also that he came to bear our sins on the cross of Calvary where we can find our salvation.

Also, the word “holiday” originates from the phrase “holy day”. Christmas is a most holy day because on that day that most holy child, even the Son of God, was born to bring in God's rescue plan for us.

Laid in a manger, announced by angels and worshipped by shepherds - “a Saviour who is Christ the Lord” That's a message that is too good to be trimmed.

If you have time read Luke chapter 2 verses 1-14 (if you still have a Jubilee New Testament from 2012 it's on page 64).

So, Happy Xmas and Happy Holiday!,

Rev'd Roger Aston

PS The word “Emmanuel” is sometime spelt “Immanuel” but means the same. “Christ” is the same as “Messiah” and is a title rather than a name. And “Jesus” means “God saves”.

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Anna Burnside PARTNER
anna.burnside@theburnsidepartnership.com

Jacqui Birks TAX DIRECTOR
jacqui.birks@theburnsidepartnership.com

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.



For further information, please contact: info@theburnsidepartnership.com

The Carpenters' Workshop, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe, Oxfordshire OX29 8ET
T 01865 987 781 E info@theburnsidepartnership.com
W www.theburnsidepartnership.com



WI News

This month our speaker was James Ross, Chair of Trustees for a local charity called Flexicare. It serves families within a 10 mile radius of Carfax Tower, Wantage and Gove, and provides baby sitters for families with severely sick children, some with severe physical disabilities, some with developmental disabilities and those who are on the autism spectrum. It enables families of these children to try to live as normal a life as possible. This is particularly important for other children in the family who maybe have to take second place at times whilst their parents are dealing with the sick family member. Flexicare will come to the house to stay with the disabled child so that the rest of the family can go out for some quality time together and have fun. The volunteers are fully trained and are often accompanied by a paid member of staff and sit in the families' home. It's not a full time job but volunteers tend to help 2 to 4 families and are usually called upon 1 or 2 times a month. They are always looking for more volunteers, for this very important charity, if interested the first contact is via: Admin@flexicare.org.

*Wishing you all and your families the best of times this Christmas and a happy New Year too
Love the Bishops x*



M&M Waste Solutions has been established since **1972** and we supply households, commercial properties, builders, construction companies, industry and colleges with waste collections throughout Oxfordshire.



Contact us for our best rates on 3, 4, 6, 10 and 12 yard skips or 20 or 40 yard Roll on Roll off skips.



All waste recycled at our own Materials Recovery Facility in Oxford.
Call us on **01865 880559** or visit us at www.mmskiphire.com or email us at sales@mmskiphire.com

CASSINGTON TORNADO

31st October 2021

Yes it was a tornado. For anyone still in doubt the high wind that swept through the village, causing devastation in its path, has officially been classified as a T3 tornado, indicating wind speeds of up to 42-51 m/s (93-114 mph). A few days after the event Sarah Horton from the Tornado and Storm Research Organisation (TORRO) visited the village to assess and document the damage. She has prepared a comprehensive report, extending to 16 pages, some of which is included in this summary. The full report is available to view on the village website: <https://cassington-pc.gov.uk/>



The tornado looks to have started in Eynsham and provisionally the path is being measured as ending at the boundary of Worton. It had a width of around 160m and a provisional length of 3km. A clear path was seen through woodland at both ends of the village as well as through the

village. Many trees were lost, a good number of which had sentimental value. Tree damage showed strong elements of twist to wood fibres. Heavy projectiles travelled some distance. Many houses sustained some roof damage. Other property was damaged too, including cars, outbuildings, walls and windows. Some houses were coated in debris following the event.

Most residents that were spoken to likened the noise to jet engines, or like a noise that they had not heard before. Some compared it to the planes at nearby RAF Brize Norton. Those who saw the tornado spoke about



how difficult it was to see anything. They described levels of horizontal rain that some said they had not witnessed before. They also described a 'mist' that was impossible to see through. Some, however, said that they could see branches and debris swirling. Several people commented that afterwards they found their houses and cars were covered in shredded leaves and other debris.

Large projectiles were found to have flown some considerable distance. One lady said that she had left windows open and afterwards the carpets were covered with moss from the roof. She described it as looking like 'the floor of a woodland' after the event

It was shocking for all those who witnessed it and the devastation left behind. However the outpouring of concern, compassion and support that followed on various village social media forums was a testament to the wonderful supportive community that is this village.

Thank you to all those who came out to help clear up and support those who had suffered loss or damage. It is a huge relief that no-one appears to have been injured, and the village can even boast that we have a flying rabbit - who survived unscathed!

Regulation 14 Notice: Cassington Village Neighbourhood Plan

Notice is hereby given that the Cassington Village Neighbourhood Plan, Green Infrastructure Plan, Design Code and Analysis of the Village Survey relating to the first two documents is published on the Cassington Parish Council Website at: <https://cassington-pc.gov.uk/> under the link Parish Council / Neighbourhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan is a statutory document which lays out guidance and suggested management of future development in Cassington Village. The Green Infrastructure Plan details the history of Cassington Village, the green infrastructure in and around the village as well as a variety of issues of importance to the residents, landowners and others with an interest in Cassington. The Green Infrastructure Plan is intended to inform the Neighbourhood Plan but also covers issues not covered by the Neighbourhood Plan and planning in general. The Village Survey was aimed to garner views from the residents of Cassington on matters related to how they would like to see the village develop in the future. The Design Code appraises the main village settlement, and its content has informed the design policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.

We request that anyone who lives, works or carries on business in the neighbourhood area of Cassington Parish should read the Neighbourhood Plan, Green Infrastructure Plan, Analysis of the Village Survey and the Design Code and, should they wish, respond to the plan and associated documents by email to: cassingtonclerk@cassington-pc.gov.uk or in writing to Ms T Cameron, 25 Lilac Way, Carterton OX18 1JH by the 18th of February.

The Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan Committee would appreciate comments of support, additional suggestions or criticisms of the plans in order to include as wide a body of opinion on the plans as possible. The documents can be provided in hard copy for people without access to the internet. Requests for hard copies should be sent to the Clerk of the Parish Council.

The documents related to this notice are:
Neighbourhood Plan:
Green Infrastructure Plan:
Questionnaire and Analysis of the Village Survey:
Design Code:

Kind Regards
Parish Council &
Cassington Neighbourhood Plan Committee



BREAD & BUTTER CAFÉ

CASSINGTON'S HIDDEN TREASURE

**FIND US BEHIND THE FARMHOUSE BY
THE POOL**

CHRISTMAS CLOSED 23RD DEC – 4TH JANUARY

MONDAY-FRIDAY 10 – 2.30pm

**GOOD VALUE FOOD, WARM AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE,
PRETTY POOLSIDE VENUE**



**EARLY BIRD DEAL MONDAY AND FRIDAY 10 -2.30PM WINTER
COFFEE AMERICAN/LATTE OR TEA
BACON SANDWICH OR TOASTED T CAKE OR TOAST & JAM £4.30**

**AFTERNOON CREAM TEA MUST BOOK
FISH & CHIP FRIDAY FREE TEA OR COFFEE POPULAR
VEGAN/GLUTEN FREE MENU**

**WORTON PARK, CASSINGTON ROAD, CASSINGTON OX29 4SX
GOOGLE BREAD & BUTTER CAFÉ CASSINGTON 01865 882627
E: mail tracey1040@btinternet.com mob: 07771933059**

ST PETER'S SCHOOL



This has been an incredibly busy term already. As part of our 'People Who Inspire Us project', we were very pleased to welcome Rana Ibrahim who is an Iraqi artist. She told the children of how she fled the war in Iraq and came to England not being able to speak any English. Rana founded the group 'Iraqi Women Art and War' where the aim of the project is to empower people to tell their story through art. In choosing which of our school values Rana shows the most, the children were emphatic with their choice of Courage and Hope. Please have a look at the school website for more details of this. <https://www.st-petersoxon.co.uk/people-who-inspire-us/>

We are always on the lookout for more people who can come to school and inspire us so if you have a story to tell or know somebody who does, do not be shy and make contact with us – we would be delighted to hear from you!

Our new assistant headteacher, Rob Miles, was a musician in the RAF and his instrument of choice is the trumpet! You may well have heard him lead our remembrance at the memorial on Thursday November 11th - several members of the community have commented to us how poignant they felt the occasion was.

In recent weeks and months, our pond area has undergone a dramatic transformation. Stew Thompson has provided more detail elsewhere in this publication, but the school would like to take the opportunity to wholeheartedly thank everyone who has been involved in the project, and especially Stew Thompson, Graham Mills, Matt Britton and Mark Finch who have all contributed a huge amount of time and resources. The children are very excited and can't wait to start using the fabulous resource!

The first of the Covid Bounceback fundraising money has been spent with the first phase of the adventure play equipment for nursery and reception children being installed. We also now have a fence, gate and shelter outside



Year 1/2 ready for the outdoor learning equipment. The smartscreen TVs have been ordered for the two KS2 classes though there are delays to the delivery. We will keep you updated and share more photos as soon as we can. Thank you once again for your generosity - we managed to raise an outstanding £10,665.

Stay safe and well and please don't hesitate to contact us – we truly loved hearing from you during the Covid Bounceback campaign.

Jon Jeffries
Headteacher

Unlocking...

Minds that learn

Hearts that love

Faith that gives

St Peter's Christmas Raffle

Appeal for donations and how to get your tickets



With the village school's Christmas Fayre cancelled again due to rising Covid cases in the area, the SPSA is aiming to make its raffle the one of choice so it can raise as much money as possible for St Peter's Primary.

If you can donate a treat, or work for a company who could donate, it would be massively appreciated if you could either drop in your donation at the school or email Lucy Brinicombe at brinicombelucy@hotmail.com. The generosity from businesses will be profiled on the school parents' Facebook group so that we can support local businesses at the same time as generate funds for the school.

More raffle tickets will be available this year to better meet demand and can be bought for £1 each from parents at the school at the school's reception or in The Red Lion. The draw will take place on Monday December 13, the last week of term.

Our fundraising efforts have, of course, been very limited over the past 18 months or so because of Covid restrictions.

But last year's raffle raised £805, which we were so grateful for. It meant we could help purchase more chrome books so that all families had access to a computer device during lockdown. We were also able to help fund an online children's entertainer and subsidise some of the activity days to help the children with their learning once back in the classroom.

Any help you're able to give to make this year's raffle bigger and better would be hugely appreciated – thank you!

Louise Judd and Garry Peasley, SPSA Co-chairs



Happy Christmas to all our wonderful friends and neighbours in Cassington! Wishing you all a merry and well deserved holiday and good wishes for 2022.
From Cate, Fred, Dylan and Felix

M J Fyson BA BA VetMB MRCVS
The Coach House Veterinary Clinic Ltd
Wroslyn Road
Freeland
Nr. Witney
Oxon OX29 8AQ
E-mail: coachhousevet@outlook.com

We are a traditional independent small animal
Veterinary Clinic

- Opening hours: Mon-Fri 08:00-18:30.
- Emergency service only Sat 09:00-12:00
- Consultations by appointment only, please phone 01993 880551
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www.coachhousevetclinic.co.uk



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Cassington

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Career progression



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Call us on 01865 881440

manager@churchfieldscarehome.co.uk

www.churchfieldscarehome.co.uk

Pound Lane, Cassington, Oxford, OX29 4BN

Churchfields News

As the Winter months roll around, Staff and Residents at Churchfields care home have been particularly busy getting involved in Halloween and Bonfire Night Activities.



Residents have enjoyed getting stuck into some Pumpkin carving! This year, residents gave the pumpkins a bit of a twist. As with tradition, they scooped out the middles and carved scary faces. Others took a more artistic approach and used some beautiful pastel colours to paint them. Residents also enjoyed painting skull plant pots and filling them with the most delicate succulents.

Residents have also become a dab hand at baking, as they have enjoyed making halloween cookies and strawberry cheesecake this month!

Churchfields staff and residents also thoroughly enjoyed Bonfire night festivities as the home held a bonfire party and firework display, where some residents from Rosebank, Churchfield's sister home, joined us. At the Bonfire party, there were sparklers and luxury hot chocolates, which no one could resist!



In commemoration of Remembrance Day, residents created some poppy art and crafts. Residents and staff stood together for two minutes of silence on the 11th November to reflect and remember those who laid down their lives so that we can have our today.



Also, don't forget that Churchfields are currently recruiting and looking for individuals who share their commitment and enthusiasm for



care. Join their professional, friendly, fun and supportive team and in return you will receive a fulfilling career.

You will benefit from excellent training opportunities, high staff ratio at all times, strong leadership and supportive management. Contact Steph Eley at Churchfields to find out more about these exciting job opportunities, call 01865 881440 or email manager@churchfieldscarehome.co.uk.

In the meantime, please keep following us on Facebook to see how daily life continues at Churchfields.



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Parish Council News

November 2021

Previous Parish Council Minutes can be found online at <http://www.cassington-pc.gov.uk>

Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 2nd December 2021 in the village hall with full Covid precautions in place. Everyone is welcome to attend

Neighbourhood Plan.

The draft Neighbourhood Plan has been sent to Planning at WODC and we are awaiting the response from that. WODC has come back and advised that we don't need a SEA (Strategic Environment Assessment) or HRA (Habitats Regulations Assessment).

Horsemere Lane and Cassington Lights.

Tracey had a meeting with OCC with regards to Cassington Lights and how it will work on the A40. The PDF from the meeting is now on the website under Parish Council then Planning. The Parish Council also have another meeting on 24th November this will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

School crossing/20mph zone.

Tracey has now applied to OCC to have the speed limit reduced to 20mph. We should receive a response by the next Parish Council Meeting. The Parish Council are also asking OCC to move the speed monitor further up Eynsham Road so that it will pick up more car speed as they travel along Eynsham Road. Update still chasing.

War Memorial.

We have heard back from the War Memorial Trust. They have advised that they will not give permission for the discolouration to be dealt with.

Speed watch

Tracey has been in contact with Yarnton Parish Council and are looking at setting up a joint meeting with Thames Valley Police for camera training. – This is still ongoing

Walls both dry stone and pointed

The Parish Council intends to produce a register of all the walls in the village. Almost all are protected by planning however a register will offer further protection of this important aspect of our village. This is still ongoing

The Parish Council would like to ask if anyone in the Village would like to volunteer to do the wall survey. It will mean going round the village taking photos and measurements of all the stone walls. – if you are interested please contact the Clerk.

Precept

The Parish Council has decided on the precept for the next financial year. The increase will be 2.97% which takes the band D properties from £67.32 to £69.32

N.B Clerk contact details

Tracey Cameron

Email cassingtonclerk@cassington-pc.gov.uk

Tel 01993 622750

The Parish Council would also like to offer a big Thanks to the residents who helped out after the Tornado hit the village.

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

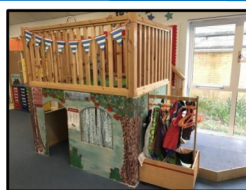
Cllr. Chris Metcalf, 2 The Tennis



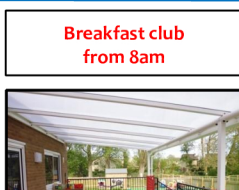
St Peter's CE Primary School

Early Years Foundation Stage

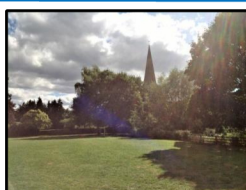
Nursery and Reception spaces available



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Breakfast club from 8am



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After school provision 3-5pm



Swimming pool



Forest school



Dedicated outside space



New EYFS play equipment



Purpose built classroom



Adventure playground

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For us to make changes that matter, we needed to understand our own footprint. We've commissioned a report with Pilio, an environment and energy consultancy to calculate our emissions for 2019/2020.

Join the fight and combat climate change together!

Read our new green report and learn more at
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A new outdoor learning facility for St. Peter's School

After a very successful project to plant a native hedgerow around the periphery of St. Peter's, debate turned to what we might turn our attentions to next in our attempt to elevate outdoor learning opportunities for the children, whilst increasing the biodiversity value of our little village. Villagers of a certain age (50ish) will remember a time when there was a large pond within the grounds of the school, used by the teachers to learn about nature. Sadly, many years of neglect/lack of maintenance meant that the pond and the site in general had become very overgrown, resulting in the pond no longer being in existence. We therefore agreed that we would restore the site and the pond to something like its former glory, with a view to the school using it as an outdoor learning facility.



The first task was to inventory the current wildlife use of the site in order to make sure that we were not going to contravene any protected species legislation. So in advance of any work, I undertook numerous wildlife surveys of the site, with a particular emphasis on locating any birds, bats, reptiles and amphibians that might have been there. Happily, as far as the restoration element goes, nothing of significance was revealed. We were good to go.

As we began to work on the site, it became evident that this was going to be a big job – much bigger in all honesty than I predicted, requiring some serious “toys” (diggers, chainsaws, fence augers, brush cutters etc.) and a lot of man hours to put the site back on track. Fortunately a number of villagers stepped in, some very extensively, to help deliver the end goal – and now is the time to extend my sincere thanks to them all.



The task would simply not have been possible without John Perrin coming along with his digger, to both clear large tracts of the site and to re-create the pond profile. Thanks also to Dave Butlin for undertaking a good deal of the tree work and heavy clearance. In

order to make the site safe for the children we needed to erect a significant amount of (costly!) fencing. This was very kindly donated by Kathie and Jim Thomson. Additional help was provided by Emily Lemaire, Lorna Mills, Billy Humphris, Bridget Sherlock, Kate Rogers, Cate Sirkett and Helena Nielsen. A special mention here to Alex and Candida Rogers and family, who despite the efforts of Covid and a global climate conference to speak at, managed to help out on several occasions. And finally – a MASSIVE thank you to my three compadre's on this project – Graham Mills, Matt Britton and Mark Finch. Collectively they supported the project throughout, selflessly giving their time, equipment, expertise and financial support to this crackpot idea of mine. Thanks fellas – I owe you!

Unfortunately, just as we were in the process of breaking out the champagne (well OK – beer), nature intervened in the form of some rather “unusual” weather, which resulted in two large trees coming down in the pond compound (which we still need to attend to at the time of writing). Once this has been achieved, the school will have an outdoor area where the children can see and learn about the natural world up close and personal. I hope they enjoy it.



Stay safe
Stew Thompson

To all our kind and caring friends and neighbours. Have yourselves a merry little Christmas. With much love from Lisa and the Harvey Bunch



Yvonne,
Dave, Dan and Steve wish all friends and neighbours in Cassington, a very happy Christmas and hopefully better times for all in 2022

Christmas wishes to all the lovely folk in Cassington! Wishing you a happy and healthy festive season. Our Christmas donation will be to The Gatehouse. Love Bridget and Stewart



John and Julie Perrin and Sean Wish all their friends in the village A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. A donation will be made to Air Ambulance



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Observation

by Stephen Wright



This month's column comes to you from the Thesis 7 live music bar in Athens, Greece, with Christmas songs being broadcast from the speakers on 19th November.

I decided to use the second week of the international break to go on holiday with my friend from uni, Todd. It's not like there was anything important happening at Norwich City anyway.

We had a delightful view from the Acropolis Hotel of some of Athens' most notable landmarks, a view we regularly coupled with a bottle of Mythos.

From moussakas and baklavas to Olympic stadiums and ancient ruins, we did our best to fully experience the city. However, on the final day, our Greek friend Stavros wanted to go for an English breakfast before sending us off to Heathrow.

I pointed out a nice looking cafe, where this column is being written. I ordered a couple of sausages with some scrambled egg, beans and tomato.

As for the sausage, let's just say I could have gone to a gift shop to buy a souvenir eraser and it would have tasted less like rubber. The shame of leaving two big sausages and offending the chef meant I had to come up with a lie, that I had one bite and then remembered I am vegetarian (which I am not). The waitress seemed upset and spoke some Greek with Stavros and I think I heard the word tosser, so it's nice to know I've left a lasting legacy here.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

'Chris Cringle'



Ingredients:

25ml fresh lime juice
25ml cranberry juice
25ml Amaretto
1 teaspoon strawberry jam (or any jam)

Method:

Shake all ingredients with lots of ice and strain over ice into a tumbler (You can mush the jam and the lime juice together, then stir in the other ingredients if you don't have a shaker)

Taste and adjust sweetness with more jam

Garnish:

Anything Christmassy! Fresh cranberries, cinnamon stick, candy cane!!!

-additionally you can top up with fizz for a longer drink...

Wishing
you all a Merry
Christmas filled with Flowers,
Twinkling lights, Bubbly and Love.
Dan, Ruth and the Bakewell
Clan xx



A happy (folklore) Christmas from the Robin



For pretty much everyone the Robin is their favourite garden bird - energetic, confiding, and appealing to look at. But of course, at this time of year the Robin moves centre stage as they adorn millions of Christmas cards, helping us celebrate this special time of year. As a birder and someone with a fascination for wildlife in folklore, they are a veritable treasure trove of stories to tell, so I thought I might share a few with you.

Pre-Victorian times the Robin was only (aptly) known as the redbreast, but as I have written before our Victorian forbears tended to give our most favoured feathered friends a Christian name as an indication of their affection for them (remember "Jenny" wren). And so, Robin redbreast became the bird's new moniker. It would appear however, that this was a short-lived title, with the Victorians dropping the "redbreast" opting just for Robin, which today is the birds most enduring name. Interestingly, the postmen during Victorian times wore a red uniform and were usually referred to as "Robins" by the public. It was also the Victorians who celebrated their affection for the Robin by selecting them to become the bird they most often drew/painted on their Christmas cards, delivered of course by a "Robin".

The iconic redbreast of the Robin is surrounded by myth, a good deal of which is religious in origin. It is suggested that the bird was an all-over brown colour until it visited Jesus on the cross. Depending on the source you consult, the Robin sang to Jesus as he lay dying on the cross or that he picked the thorns from the crown around his head. As the Robin did so his breast was stained by the blood of Christ. Another link between the Robin and Christianity comes from the story that as the baby Jesus lay in his manger the fire set to keep him warm began to fade and the Robin fanned the flames to keep the fire going, but in doing so burned his breast. Alternatively, the fire set to keep baby Jesus warm was large and began to shower sparks towards his manger, which the Robin caught on his breast. All these stories (and many more) forged the bond between the Robin, Christianity, and Christmas.

It is not all sweetness and light in terms of our appreciation for the Robin, as they are steeped in superstition. Where I come from (Yorkshire) if you are having a bad day/luck it is common place to remark "I must have killed a Robin", as it is a commonly-held belief that harming a Robin does not bode well. It was once thought that if you harmed a Robin that the hand that did the harm would tremor for the rest of your life. Even my Grandad would remind me as a child as I set out for a day's egg collecting (ahem!) "not to take a Robin's eggs". So many other stories surround the Robin and ill fortune. A commonly encountered old wives' tale is that if a Robin comes into your house or taps on your window, it heralds a death in your family. An addendum to this is that one coming into your house does not "count" if it occurs in November! I have tried to discover the origin of this but with no luck - so if you have an explanation - do let me know. The tapping on the window aspect of this superstition is interesting, as the Robin is fiercely territorial and of course if you see one tapping at your window it is attacking its own reflection as it misguidedly thinks there is an competitor on his patch.

So much has been written about our curious and often feisty garden friend, so obviously I could go on. Without doubt Robins are our most iconic bird, bringing joy to all of us who love wildlife and the wellbeing that this brings. I am sure one will be somewhere in your garden on Christmas day - look out of your kitchen window - you won't be disappointed.

Happy Christmas one and all - stay safe.
Stew Thompson

Emily,
Zach, Seren (and Indi
the dog) would like to wish a very
Happy Christmas to all our Cassington
friends. Thank you to everyone who
helps us out, year in year out -
you're all amazing! xx

Festive
wishes to all our Cassington
friends... wishing everyone a happy and
healthy 2022. In lieu of cards we will be
making a donation to Diabetes UK
Sara, Lionel, Elliot and
Amelia Bolton x

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TEA TIME TEASER

Around the World Father Christmas, or the Giver of Gifts, has different names. This month the question is which country calls him by which name. To make it slightly easier the countries or islands are:
Afghanistan, Chile, Denmark, Hawaii, Latvia, Mongolia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam

1. Kanakaloka
2. Ông già Noel (Christmas old man)
3. Baba Chaghaloo
4. Uvliin Uvuu (Winter Grandpa)
5. Ziemassvētku vecītis (Christmas old man)
6. Julemanden (Christmas Man)
7. Naththal Seeya
8. Viejito Pascuero (Christmas old man)

Answers next month

Answers to last month's first lines from classic books:

1. 'It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife'

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen (1813)

2. 'The story so far: in the beginning, the universe was created. This has made a lot of people very angry and been widely regarded as a bad move'

The Restaurant at the End of the Universe by Douglas Adams (1980)

3. 'You better not never tell nobody but God. It'd kill your mammy'

The Color Purple by Alice Walker (1982)

4. 'I write this sitting in the kitchen sink'

I Capture the Castle by Dodie Smith (1948)

5. 'It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen'

1984 by George Orwell (1949)

6. 'It was a queer, sultry summer, the summer they electrocuted the Rosenbergs, and I didn't know what I was doing in New York'

The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath (1963)

7. 'Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again'

Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier

8. 'We slept in what had once been the gymnasium'

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood

We wish everyone in Cassington and Worton a very happy and healthy Xmas and New Year. Our donations will go to village charities.
Dawn and Pete Bowerman
Elsie and Colin Floyd
Celia and Ken Dore
John and Jan Floyd

Gardening Tips for December

- Insulate outdoor taps and prevent ponds from freezing
- Prevent winter damage by staking and mulching
- Take hardwood cuttings.
- Reduce watering of indoor plants

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We would like to wish all our friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. With best wishes and love Marianne and Ken XXX
In lieu of Christmas cards we will donate to a local charity

Merry Christmas to everyone from Sally, Lottie and gang in Eynsham



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what's on?

Dates for your diary



December 2021

Thursday 2nd 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Saturday 4th 2-4pm	Churchfields Christmas market
Tuesday 7th	Christmas tree erected on village green
Saturday 11th 11am-4pm	Combe Mill Christmas market
Monday 13th	SPSA Christmas raffle
Tuesday 14th	January CAWN deadline
Saturday 25th	Christmas Day
Sunday 26th	Boxing Day Football match

January 2022

Thursday 6th 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 20th	February CAWN deadline

For details of Neighbourhood Watch volunteers, County and District Councillors, Village Hall, Pavilion, and MUGA booking fees please see the village website:
www.cassington-pc.gov.uk

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Any surplus will be passed to the Cassington Parochial Charities to support our community.