CCROUDE AND ARCH 2022 (#537) CASSINGTON AND WW.cassington-pc.gov.uk

Congratulations Sasha and Simon



CAS.







Rich and Mandy Constance are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter Sasha to Simon Crowden. Simon popped the question on a trip to a remote beach in Thailand on Christmas Eve.

Having been tipped off, the rest of the family got up at 5.30am to watch the proposal live via Facetime! As Sasha and Simon are still away they have yet to finalise any dates or plans for the wedding.

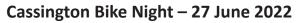
Thank you to everyone for their congratulations, we are very happy for them and for us.

G

KE NIGHT

27 JUNE 2022





It's back! After two years off we expect guidelines to allow the event to happen this year so we have reformed to organise the event safely as before.

For those new to the village – it has become tradition for thousands of motorbikes to converge on our village on the last Monday of June to look at the many classic and vintage bikes that turn up - a popular event on the motorbike calendar. Ask a neighbour who's been here a while and they will tell you more!

It's also a great chance for our local charities and traders to raise money with a captive audience.

We are having our 'kick-off' meeting on Thursday 17 March in the Red Lion at 7.30pm and would welcome anyone with an interest to come along and find out more. Cassington Bike Night Team

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

Welcome to the 537th edition of CAWN. It is lovely to still be able to bring you happy news on the front cover, although inside you will find a number of articles and tributes to those we have recently lost.

There seems to be a lot to report on this month, so I hope you find articles of interest to you. Of course I have still found space for the regular features, including the new poetry corner and the next installment of Helen Barr's tale of our dogs' lives. Thank you to her, to Lila Batt for another lovely picture and to Margaret Bonfiglioni for her beautiful poem.

Indeed thank you to all the contributors this month, as well as to all our advertisers, who enable us to keep providing the printed edition each month. As always I welcome contributions towards any of the regular features, and suggestions of anything you think might be of interest to other village residents.

On page 14 you will find a summary of OCC's proposed changes to the A40. The consultation period has now been extended to 12th March 2022, so there is still time to make your views known, if you have not already done so.

Finally, I very much hope that next month I shall be able to bring you news of what is being planned for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June. Until then happy reading!

Anne x

CONTENTS

| Congratulations/Bike Night 1 |
|---|
| A Tribute/March stargazing |
| Ken Kerr/Olaf Rock/Gardening Tips 3 |
| Poetry Corner/Walking/CPRE Trustees/Use Professionals/20mph 4 |
| St Peter's Church Services/Food Bank/Catholic Church 5 |
| lan Waters' Legacy7 |
| Churchfields News |
| Parish Council News/Recipe of the Month 10 |
| Observation |
| St Peter's School/Combe Mill/Eynsham Heritage Day13 |
| Changes to the A40/Art exhibition |
| Soldiers of Oxfordshire/WI News/U3a17 |
| Story - Treasure Hounds 2 16 |
| Tea Time Teaser/Drains/SPSA/Films/Forthcoming Events 19 |
| Noticeboard/What's On/Advertising rates 20 |

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.

<u>A Tribute</u>

On January 27th your village came together and mourned as you laid one of your own to rest. Many of you from the village turned out for the service to honor your brother, your neighbor, your friend, John Perrin. Many more returned to the place they still consider home to stand with the community to say goodbye.

But it was not just a day of sadness, it was a day of remembrance, a day to celebrate the life of JP. And nothing proved that more than the gathering at the Red Lion after the service. It was there that I witnessed friends and neighbors coming together as one big family.

Drinks were served all around, and stories were shared in abundance. Old friends who had not seen each other in years took up conversations like it was just yesterday they had shared a pint together. Childhood friends hugged and put their heads together to reminisce about days long past. There were tales of bicycle rides and boyfriends, of sneaking off and of getting caught. Shared smiles when you talked about children and grandchildren. And there were tears when you remembered those you had lost.

Cassington is a very special place in the world, a place some may take for granted. But please know that your village has a bright spirit; it is a community in the truest sense. And though normal, every day life can get in the way, and you may forget how special it is when life gets too busy, you all proved on that Thursday afternoon that your hearts still belong to the Village. No matter the distance or the differences, you will always stand together and raise a pint to one of your own.

John McConathy (husband of Sue née Butler)

March stargazing highlights

March 2 - New Moon.

The Moon will not be visible in the night sky. This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.

March 18 - Full Moon.

The Moon will be located on the opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be will be fully illuminated. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Worm Moon because this 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.

March 20 - March Equinox.

The March equinox is when the Sun shines directly on the equator and there will be nearly equal amounts of day and night throughout the world. This is seen as the first day of spring (vernal equinox).

Ken Kerr



It is with much sadness that we announce the death of our Dad, Ken Kerr, who passed away peacefully at the JR on Friday 4th February aged 81. He was well known by many in the village and we hope to include a more detailed piece on his life in the April issue.

His funeral will take place at St Peter's Church, Cassington on Tuesday 1st March 2022 at 2.00pm. Family Flowers only but donations if desired to Michael Sobell House c/o Kings Funeral Services, 82 Evans Road, Eynsham, Oxon, OX29 4QS.

He will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Martin & Andy Kerr

Consultations by appointment only, please phone 01993 880551 Friendly personal service for dogs, cats and small furries Stockists of Symply and Canagan pet foods New clients always welcome Follow us on Facebook: Coach House Veterinary Clinic 01993 8805551 www.coachhousevetsclinic.co.uk Gardening Tips for March

• Prune bush and climbing rosesr

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- Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes
- Plant summer flowering bulbs
- Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials
- Top dress containers with fresh compost
 - Protect new spring shoots from slugs!
 - Start feeding fish and using pond fountains

Olaf Rock

7th February 1935 – 28th January 2022

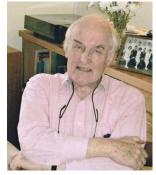
Olaf passed away peacefully after a short illness a few days before his 87th birthday.

If you have lived in the village for several years you are sure to remember the very tall, thoughtful figure of Olaf, and, if you have lived here longer still, the contrastingly short and vibrant figure of his wife Sheila, who sadly

died from cancer in 2002. With thanks to his nephew Nick, here is a little more about his life.

Olaf was born in Barnet, London, moving to Scotland at the age of 14 when his father became a director of Paisley Museum. He won a scholarship to St Albans School then, at 18, began his National Service with the Royal Navy in the Mediterranean on and around Malta. After this he gained a degree in Chemical Engineering at Glasgow University where he also learned to fence, representing Scotland in the 1960s Home Nations tournament and earning a place as a reserve for the Commonwealth Games around the same time. He moved to Lancashire in 1961 to work for the Atomic Energy Authority, meeting Sheila at the Halle Club through a shared love of classical music. They married in Warrington in 1965, although Olaf's parents did not approve and did not attend the wedding.

Olaf and Sheila moved to Cassington in 1969 when Olaf took a job in the Patent and Trademarks Department at the newlyformed British Leyland where he trained and qualified as a Patent and Trademark Attorney, eventually managing the



department and with responsibility for many historical trademarks such as Austin, Rover, Jaguar, MG and Triumph.

In 1987 Olaf converted the barn in the garden of their house, 'Trelawn', into an office and set up on his own as a Trademark Attorney. Olaf and Sheila became more involved in village life, helping to run the village fete and other events, and the offices of 'Rock and Company' became a hub of village activities, with many

taking advantage of Olaf's very reasonable photocopying service, including the monthly production of CAWN for many years.

After Sheila died, Olaf continued to involve himself in village life, becoming a Parish Councillor, working on the Village Plan, and joining the art classes and other groups. He had a great love of music, enjoyed singing and was a talented musician, playing his many recorders and other instruments, and had a large and broad record collection from classical and jazz through to Pink Floyd.

In 2013 Olaf sold 'Trelawn', retired from his business and moved to Eynsham which, with it's bus service and nearby shops, he considered better suited to a man approaching his 80s. He became a Parish Councillor and served on their Village Hall Committee for several years. He also joined various music groups but still maintained his links with Cassington, singing with Octavia and playing his bass recorder with the Cassington Consort.

A quiet, generous gentleman, with a very wry sense of humour he will be remembered with fondness.

POETRY CORNER

Given Away

The long cloud lifts, leaving bare The West where the gold orb of sun sinks in peace Yet seems to hover. I wait and quietly stare, Wonder will the rabid twisting of the trees ever cease.

Sudden, from nowhere A flight of geese: A formation, a direction, a release A beating throb of wings in the broken air Yet calming my breath Gives me another day.

How my heart shone Alone Griefs quite blown away At my feet a sea worn stone.

by Margaret Bonfiglioni

Time to get walking again!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside. But where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Oxfordshire: https://www.walkinginengland. co.uk/oxfordshire has hundreds of walks to download and print for free. It also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking! John Harris

www.walkinginengland.co.uk john@walkinginengland.co.uk

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Application deadline is 31 March 2022, but we are happy to receive expressions of interest on an ongoing basis.

For further info see our website: www.cpreoxon.org.uk or contact Branch Secretary Dorian Grier at: dorian.cpre@gmail.com or on 01491 612079

Let the qualified professionals do the work

Our house is completely in turmoil. We have, after years of deliberation, bitten the bullet and are having the house completely rewired. With safety in mind and the stringent regulations I'm happy to let a qualified professional to do the work, which I am not qualified to do.

2nd March is "Ash Wednesday" and the beginning of Lent which is the time of 40 days (not counting Sundays) preparing for Easter, where the church has a time of reflection. Lent has been marked in the past by fasting (and by many people it still is) and hence the folk tradition of "giving something up for Lent" maybe chocolate, coffee, cigarettes or booze. However, Lent is also observed by many Christians as a special time of reflection for prayer, and bible study.

In Lent we reflect on Christ's sacrifice for us, and our need to "repent" (a word that literally means to turn around and go the other way). To turn away and around from things in our lives that have hurt God and hurt others, and a time to seek forgiveness.

However, forgiveness always comes with a price to pay. One of the basic principles of Christianity is that we cannot pay that price for our forgiveness ourselves – we are just not qualified. We cannot even earn our forgiveness by doing good works. Nobody is perfect and even doing good works does not make you a Christian - although Christians are called to do good works.

Just as I need a qualified professional electrician to do for me what I cannot do for myself, in rewiring our house, the sinless Christ was, and is, the only one qualified to do the work in paying the price for my forgiveness. What I am called to do is to truly repent and accept that forgiveness, paid for me as a free gift, offered in love.

One of my favourite bible passages is in St Paul's letter to the Romans Chapter 5 verses 6-8 (page 170 In your Jubilee New Testament)

"6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Revd Roger Aston

Approval Given for more 20mph speed limits.

Communities that want to reduce the speed of their roads from 30mph to 20mph will find it easier after an £8 million budget was agreed to accelerate the process across Oxfordshire.

At their February meeting Oxfordshire County Council approved its 2022/23 budget, which included funding for a three-year programme to support the implementation of 20mph roads across Oxfordshire. The money will pay for sign-only measures and the intention is to encourage more walking and cycling and create safer and more pleasant places for communities. StPeter's Church

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 2022

The church is open for individuals' private prayer daily. Please continue to observe any ongoing instructions that may be in church.

Services this month

Ash Wednesday 2nd March – 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 6th March - 9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 13th March – 9.30am BCP Holy Communion

Sunday 20th March – 9.30am Morning Worship

Mothering Sunday 27th March

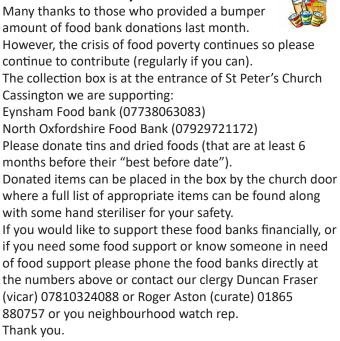


9.30 am Morning Worship 6pm Evening Prayer

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

If you have particular spiritual needs feel free to contact: **Vicar** – Revd Duncan Fraser 07810 324088 / vicarslp@gmail.com **Associate Curate** – Revd Roger Aston 01865 880757/ rogera52@aol.com **Enquiries**: Church Office 01865 883325 / <u>stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com</u>

Food Bank "Thank you!"



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Saturday (For Sunday) 5pm. Sunday 10am. Face coverings required with social distancing. For details of weekday Masses please visit the parish web page https://stpeterseynsham.org.uk/ Contact details:- Parish Priest: Fr Mark Lagorio Tel: 01865 881613 Email : stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com Parish Safeguarding Representative: Eric White ericj_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





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My dad – green and environmentally friendly before it was even invented! Ian Waters' Legacy

By Yvonne Wright



dad Μv was а Cassington man through and through, who loved gardening and working the land. After losing him last year, Dave and I have spent many weeks clearing out his cottage which

has been sad but necessary. However, when it came to the garden, which had overgrown so much, (we could have almost opened a second Forest School in Cassington), it was even harder. Thinking about all the love and dedication dad and mum had poured into it for 72 years, the thought of ripping it all out was quite painful but the results of the tornado on 31st October last year, helped to make the decision for us.

There was one particularly big Christmas tree that dad had planted when I was about six years old. Originally only about four feet high, having done it's Christmas duty, dad transferred it outside saying it had "two chances". Now, I was sixty last birthday so if you are quicker at maths than me, you will know the tree had fifty odd years growth added to it by last year. It was a handsome specimen, strong and tall, but the toranado took it. It landed across the next three gardens of our row of cottages, damaging fences, sheds and greenhouses as it went. It is a mercy no human being was

in its path. With this in mind, we decided the whole garden needed to be cleared both for safety and manageability in the future. But where to start? It was a massive and daunting task and we decided we needed to employ outside help.



After some horrendous quotes from a few dodgy sounding guys, thanks to the wonders of the Cassington village Facebook page, a couple of people said "try Mark from St Peter's Close"; so I did, and it was the best thing. It took a weight off me straight away that someone local and trustworthy was willing to take on the job. (I only knew Mark as someone to hello to in the Lion. We had no idea we had someone so helpful on our doorstep!)



A huge benefit was that Mark knew various people in the village who were happy to take a lot of the plants. He also suggested Stewart (Thompson) might like the goldfish from dad's much loved pond, which was the case. (A special mention here to dad's neighbours from no 5 who had kindly been looking after the fish since dad's death, along with keeping the bird feeding stations filled up. I know they are going to miss their adopted pets!) I was so scared no one would want the fish and I didn't



want them to die. Stewart then also took the empty pond to the allotments for a wildlife project. All the overgrown trees and bushes were minced up in a special machine, creating mulch, also for the allotments and some to the pub garden too. Not forgetting the logs which also found homes to go to!

All of this has given me huge comfort that dad's garden has not gone to waste. It hasn't been gathered up and dumped at Dix Pit but has been recycled and re-used to give pleasure to others.



My Dad was a wonderfully generous man, who would always give things away. I am so pleased that his legacy has now spread out across the village and so grateful to all who helped make up happen. Thanks everyone x



BLENHEIM





Charity and Community Bursary 2022

Each year we are proud to provide funding to local charity and community projects. We're thrilled to announce we are now inviting grant applications for our £50,000 bursary scheme.

This year we are inviting applicants that focus their work on green and sustainable projects, and we are particularly looking forward to receiving applications from local groups and organisations that are doing something positive and practical to address the challenges of climate change.

Since the launch at the end of 2018, our bursary has distributed in excess of £150,000 to more than 50 different organisations across the local communities. The bursary is available to all local charities and organisations and is part of our ongoing commitment to more than double our charitable contributions to our local community within 10 years.

Prospective candidates will have four weeks to apply, with a final list of beneficiaries set to be announced towards the end of March.

Apply at blenheim.org/bursary

Keep up-to-date with our news and latest events by signing up to our newsletter at

blenheimpalace.com

Churchfields News



This month we created a 'dignitree' to celebrate the residents and display their wishes. The staff will now work hard to grant as many wishes as possible for the residents. Wishes include having fish and chips, watching a live ballet, and attending a family wedding.

Dignity Action Day is a cause very

close to the team's hearts at Churchfields. It is celebrated annually to ensure that those using care services across the country are treated as individuals with respect, kindness, and a sense of purpose in their lives.

Care home owner, Jane Roberts said: "Although we celebrate Dignity Action Day yearly, and it is an event that is very important to us, it's essential that focusing on dignity isn't concentrated to one day a year, but rather adopted as a way of life within our homes."

"At Churchfields we pride ourselves on delivering outstanding care, and we do this by recruiting a care team whose values are centered around the safety, comfort and





happiness of our residents, and this Dignity Action Day demonstrated just that."

Jane added: "The theme of this year's Dignity Action Day is to 'put undignified care to bed.'

"Care is an incredible industry

to work in, and it's important to all of us that we make life great for our elderly friends and residents to ensure that they are well looked after and confident that they are going to have a dignified life in their later years."

Staff have recently had an amazing afternoon making Marion and Lorna's wish happen when they visited 'New Theatre' in Oxford to watch Swan Lake. Everyone had a spectacular time.

We have also been busy in our home getting our new

greenhouse up and running! At the request of our residents, we now have an incredible space to do our much loved planting. We planted sweet peas and geraniums recently

Finally, we have celebrated some very special birthdays at the home recently, as well as enjoying a good sing-song with St. Peter's Church, Cassington!



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Parish Council News

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 3rd March 2022 in the village hall with full Covid precautions in place. Everyone is welcome to attend

Neighbourhood Plan.

The Regulation 14 continues with the end date being 28th February 2022

Horsemere Lane and Cassington Lights.

The Parish Council as well as ClIr Levy had a meeting with OCC on 3rd February to discuss the model video of Cassington Lights. Considering Highway Safety, a right-hand turn will continue to be used. The Clerk is looking to set up another meeting to discuss biodiversity. The consultation comment period has been extended to 12th March 2022

School crossing/20mph zone.

The Parish Council has had a reply with regards to the 20mph campaign and has been advised that it is with officers who will decide shortly. No decision has been made yet.

Speed watch

Mr Ron MacDonald has now created a speed watch group with Thames Valley Police. If you would like to join, please contact the clerk who will pass on your details.

Walls both dry stone and pointed

The Parish Council intends to produce a register of all the walls in the village.

Recipe of the Month

Leek and Potato Soup

I am a huge fan of soup. Most vegetables can be made into soup, and I also find it's an excellent way of using up left overs. However my favourite soup is the good old leek and potato. It is so easy to make, and it is like a warm comfort blanket, especially on a cold, wet winter's day.

Ingredients

Potatoes and leeks - quantity dependent on how much soup you want to make. I tend to use roughly equal quantities. You can start with an onion and garlic, or even add little strips of bacon or cubes of pancetta if you wish.

Method

Chop up the potatoes and the leeks and add to a saucepan with a small amount of oil, so they don't stick. Sweat them over a low heat to draw out the flavour.

Add vegetable or chicken stock or even just water and salt and pepper to taste. Boil until the potatoes are cooked. Taste and add seasoning if required. Puree in a liquidiser or serve it lumpy, which gives it texture.

I like to drop little cubes of cheddar cheese into it. It works well served with crusty bread that can then be used to mop round the bowl at the end! Anne Luttman-Johnson

February 2022

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.

Play Area

The order for the new toddler swing has been placed and we are now waiting for Proludic to advise when it will be delivered and fitted.

Trees on the Recreation Ground

The Clerk has now put in the order for the trees.

Parish Council Elections

Parish Council Elections will take place on Thursday 5th May 2022.

Clerk contact details Tracey Cameron Email cassingtonclerk@cassington-pc.gov.uk Tel 01993 622750 Hours: Monday and Thursday 8:15 – 14:30

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



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OBSERVATION

By Stephen Wright

They say absence makes the heart grow fonder, but that's not always the case. When Norwich City were promoted to the Premier League, I proudly wrote in this column that I'd be bidding farewell to Luton Town, excited to never set foot in the Bedfordshire borough again. Unfortunately, after working at Crystal Palace v Norwich in December, I matched with a woman called Liz on the dating app Hinge. I say unfortunately because, although Liz and I got on well both over text message and in person on our first date in Cambridge, she is from Luton. They say relationships require sacrifices, but this is a bitter pill to swallow.

People from Luton don't get offended if you tell them how much you don't like Luton. My housemate Charlotte has a boyfriend and his exact words to me recently were "I'm ashamed to have Luton as the birthplace on my passport." Thankfully, Liz now lives closer to Hitchen (the 'nicer' part of Luton). Coincidentally, Hitchin Town FC also play in yellow and green and have a canary on their crest, just like Norwich.

Now, Hitchin seem to think they were doing the whole yellow and green canary vibe before Norwich, and so tried to sue us for copyright. Well, they're messing with the wrong person. Bones will be picked and scores will be settled should I ever visit the Hertfordshire club. Don't they know I got 41/100 on my media law essay at uni?

Maybe I should just remain single.

YOGA FOR INSOMNIA

at Cassington Village Hall

Do you have problems falling asleep or staying asleep?

Do you wake up too early?

Do you never feel refreshed after a night's sleep?

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For further details , please contact Muna Roberts Tel: 07799 382182 Email: hello@muniqueyogatherapy.com



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ST PETER'S SCHOOL



The start of the year has been a challenge with rising Covid cases across the school both for

children and staff. The teaching staff have done a fantastic job in pulling together and covering staff absence, and families have been great at supporting home learning. We hope that after half term and as we head towards the spring, with lower cases, school life can once again return to something closer to normality.

We have been incredibly lucky in having two guests recently for our People Who Inspire Us project. We have had Stew Thompson from the village coming to talk to the children about the importance of the new school pond and his passion for nature and biodiversity, and Perrin Hatwell who came to talk to us about the life of a showman, the commitment involved, and the need to turn your hand to anything when needed. Both guests gave the children much pause for thought in sharing their life experiences and the values that it requires to be successful in what ever you choose to do. Have a look on the website for all the guests we have had for this so far. If you know someone who as a story to tell and would be an inspiration for the children, please do get in touch. https://www.st-petersoxon.co.uk/ people-who-inspire-us/

At St Peter's, we want the children to be a real voice for change for the school and the planet. Our Pupil Leadership Groups give them the opportunity to drive forward their passions and inspire others. Pupil Leadership Group updates

this term:

St Peter's Chicken Group - have now built their run and coop (a big thank you to Stella + Mum and Dad, Oliver + Dad and Maya and Lila + Dad and Mum for the lovely cakes which kept us going!), and the first chickens will be arriving on Saturday 26th February.

Events Team – After a successful school talent show last term, the team have now planned for an Easter egg hunt and a summer picnic and reading event.

Climate & Biodiversity Group – have planned an assembly to raise awareness of the pond and are considering how best to use and monitor the area.

Charity Leaders - have some great ideas to raise money for the school charity, Marine Conservation Society.

Happiness and Wellbeing Leaders - are organising a calm place for playtimes and are going to introduce a 'happy box'.

St Peter's Fish Group – are going to look at how to improve the environment in the tank and buy more fish!

Cool Climateers – are monitoring our energy use and taking action to reduce our carbon footprint and food waste.

As always, do take some time to have a look at the school website - there is always so much going on and we love to share the children's experiences with you.

Unlocking...

Hearts that love

Warmest wishes,

Jon Jeffries Headteacher

Minds that learn

Faith that gives

Eynsham

10:00 - 16:00

10:15 and 13:45.

Victoria Thomas

about its

at the Bartholomew Rooms,

and the 'Doors of Eynsham' guiz.

history

Family activities

'Eynsham Archaeology: Hidden in

Plain Sight' Walking Tours (60 mins)

Leaving the Bartholomew Rooms at

Drop in to St. Leonard's Church

between 12:30 and 14:30 to ask

Combe Mill 20th March Steaming Sunday

At last things seem to be getting back to normal and for Combe Mill that includes our first Steaming Sunday on the 20th March.

Last June we welcomed anyone who was thinking they might like to volunteer at the Mill, to see how their skill set might make them feel at home. I am pleased to say that after some successful visits, training and Wednesday hard work - we had some really good people added to our team. We always have room for more though!! Come and have an informal chat, enjoy the Mill in steam and see what you can both gain and add as a volunteer.

We have a fabulous programme lined up this year for our steaming events, some old favourites and some brand new ones are being planned. In April, we are aiming to increase everyone's knowledge of STEM activities - plenty for our young visitors to interact with. Dogs are always welcome. We are also open on Wednesdays, why not come and enjoy sitting by the river, whilst tucking in to the varied offerings from the tea room.

If you are having a Spring clean – we are always looking for nice prizes for our tombola, an easy way for you to support the fundraising at the Mill.

Julie Stuart-Thompson Director Julie.st@btinternet.com



'Eynsham Abbey' Walking Tours (45 mins) eaving St. Peter's car park at 11:45 and 15:00.



Exhibition at the **Bartholomew Rooms** including the archaeology and social history of Evnsham and historical photographs of the village.

Have you found anything potentially archaeological? Want to find out more? Show it to the county's Finds Liaison Officer for answers in the **Bartholomew Rooms.**

Look out for pop-up exhibitions in the Library and Evenlode DIY in the days leading up to the Heritage Day.

The Pottery and Old Forge in Newland Street will be open to visitors 14.00 - 16.00





including Eynsham I-Spy, Medieval Crafting

and Heritage Centre

Attendees to the above events do so at their own risk

and accepts sole responsibility for any injury to themselves or caused to others.

Thank you to our sponsors, Green's Funeral Services, Eynsham and Flying Press, Witney, For further information email Angie Bolton: Angie.Bolton@Oxfordshire.gov.uk

Changes to the A40

As I am sure you are all aware, Oxfordshire Country Council are planning to upgrade the A40 between Witney and Oxford and have issued various consultations on their plans.

The documents relating to all the consultations are on the village website: https://cassington-pc.gov.uk/planning/a40-consultation/ If you look on the website you will find it under Parish Council and then Planning.

Two of the schemes within the A40 improvements work (A40 Oxford North and Eynsham park and ride) have already progressed past consultation. The A40 Oxford North scheme concerns proposals for bus, cycle, and pedestrian routes between the Wolvercote roundabout and the A34 flyover. The Eynsham Park and Ride scheme concerns a new 850 space park and ride west of Eynsham, which it is claimed will provide easier access to improved and more reliable bus services into Oxford. Construction of the park and ride is due to start in mid 2022.

The initial proposals are now complete for the A40 HIF2 Smart Corridor (Duke's Cut, integrated bus lanes and the extension of the dual carriageway) and Access to Witney. The first of these concerns the A40 as it passes Cassington, and includes their recommendations for the Cassington junction and traffic lights. The consultation period has now been extended until 12th March 2022, so there is still time to look at the plans and send in your comments if you have not already done so.

The proposal is to widen the carriageway along a 6.5km stretch to add dedicated bus lanes running eastbound and westbound along the A40 between Eynsham park and ride to Duke's Cut. Bus gates will be installed to give priority to buses at locations where they join the general traffic lane. A new, improved 3m wide pathway for pedestrians and cyclists will run parallel with the new bus lanes ensuring a continuous traffic-free shared-use route between Witney, Eynsham park and ride and Oxford.

In order to create the wider road and cycle way the properties bordering the A40 have all received letters informing them that part of their property will be compulsorily purchased by the Council. The timetable for this suggests that the purchases will be made in Spring 2022, after which the Council are hoping planning approval will be given. Work is due to start in mid 2023, and be completed in early 2025.

Clearly the land that is being purchased by the Council will be cleared of all vegetation so it can be turned into the carriageway or the cycle and pedestrian pathway. This will result in clearance of trees and hedges. OCC have committed to replanting and replacing like for like. However any residents who have received a notice of compulsory purchase are strongly advised to photograph their existing plants and hedges, and dig up and replant away from the road any plants that are particular favourites or may have sentimental value. The Parish Council are due to be meeting with OCC this month to discuss biodiversity issues.

There has been much speculation about changes that are being considered to the Cassington traffic lights, particularly

as one proposal suggested that the right turn light from the A40 into Cassington was not going to be continued. After discussions with the Parish Council it has been agreed that this will be retained. So the traffic lights will remain as they are.

If you have any specific questions about the overall scheme or its individual projects, you can contact the delivery team at A40corridor@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

ART EXHIBITION

Fredrica Craig, a resident of Cassington, paints every week with the C21 group. They paint in a variety of styles in oil and acrylic and have been painting together for over 20 years. They will be exhibiting at the Woodstock museum from 2nd April until 2nd May.





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Saboteurs, Assassins and Subversives! An Everyday Tale of the SOE



Online Talk available on the museum website from 7pm, Tuesday, 1st March 2022

Video Link: https://www.sofo.org.uk/whats-on/sas-soe/

Saboteurs, Assassins and Subversives! An Everyday Tale of the SOE is the title of the next in Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum's series of popular online talks. Free to view on the museum's website, with donations welcome.

Available from 7pm, 1st March 2022, the talk sees Ingram Murray and Antonia Keaney lift the veil of secrecy over the wartime activities of Special Operations Executive (SOE).

One of the many secret organizations created after Dunkirk at the beginning of the Second World War, the SOE had the task of stirring up clandestine warfare in Occupied Europe and creating mayhem behind enemy lines.

Both at the time, and afterwards, the SOE had a controversial record, so Ingram and Antonia will tackle the questions of if it was effective, and whether its methods were acceptable in a civilised society. It had only a short life but it was the model followed by the USA in creating the CIA, and many of its more ruthless practices have been copied by terrorist organisations today.

Retired Lt Colonel Ingram Murray served with Parachute Squadron of the Royal Engineers commander of 131 Independent Parachute Engineer Squadron, and as watchkeeper with Intelligence Cell, 1st British Corps in GB, 1976-1980. More recently he has contributed to many exhibitions at the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum as a researcher and historian, including Spy Oxfordshire: Lifting the Veil of Secrecy, and written numerous articles for Bugle & Sabre: The Military History of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. He will also be known to listeners of the We Have Ways Of Making You Talk history podcast, having appeared alongside his son, comedian Al Murray.

Antonia Keaney is Blenheim Palace's Social History researcher and an experienced speaker. She has addressed a variety of audiences, featuring on both local and national TV and radio. Antonia has also co-curated a number of exhibitions at the Palace.



WI News

This month our speaker was Kay Shortman who explained the craft of quilting. Contrary to general belief it didn't start in the 19th century, there is evidence dating back to 500A.D. with exquisite examples of robes made of quilted silk by Imperial and wealthy Chinese dignitaries, as gifts for various occasions eg. the birth of a son. In America if a Chinese child is adopted they are often given a beautiful quilted garment welcoming them to the family. The Chinese also made quilted, sleeveless garments for soldiers to wear under their armour.

In 1841 a prisoner ship for Hobart in Tasmania had about 130 women on board who spent the 3 month journey making a quilt, which is called The Rajah Quilt after the name of the ship. It's now in V.&A. Museum. As you may imagine Kay brought a wonderful collection of some of the beautiful quilts and cushions she has made showing different styles of quilting and using all types of materials. She seems to like men's shirting in particular, and buys much of her fabric from items at jumble sales or charity shops. She made it look quite easy to do, and it's obviously very absorbing as well as productive. I think I might give it a try.

Our next meeting will be on 17th March when we will hold our A.G.M.

Woodstock and District u3a



Despite uncertainties of Covid and Government pronouncements, Woodstock & District u3a's activities continue. Monthly meetings with outside speakers are now held at St. Hugh's Centre on Woodstock's Hensington Road (free parking, or a five minute stroll from the town centre) and simultaneously available to members by Zoom.

In early February our guest speaker was author and photographer Tom Wray; his subject, 'Wild Life on Your Doorstep'. A graduate of Oxford Brookes uiniversity (but in sport, rather than natural science) Tom dazzled us with a succession of colour photographs taken on many expeditions around the world., his subjects ranging in size from elephants and polar bears down to woodpeckers and finches. 'Time and patience', Tom advised, are key attributes if you want to study wild life at close hand. Remembering that polar bear's baleful stare, a degree of recklessness also sounds handy.

A change of gear in March when performance poet Andy Smith will share his findings of work from two World Wars: 'entertaining yet poignant' reads one report on Andy's style. 2 p.m. Thursday 3 March, again at St. Hugh's Centre.

Many of the Branch's individual Interest Groups have found ingenious ways to crack on with their specialisms. The Play Reading Group, for example, is starting work on Alan Ayckbourn's series of one act comedies published together as 'Confusions': may be popular at Westminster, perhaps?

Full details, as always, on the Branch website (www.u3a-sites.org.uk/woodstock).

TREASURE HOUNDS 2

by Helen Barr

Today the sun was a pumpkin. Nearly all the dogs were out, and many of the smaller humans had come with them. Bambi had recently learnt to play basketball. Like a tiny seal, she nudged the huge ball up the track with her nose. Once it fell into the culvert, but Luna was there in a flash. She batted the ball high in the air with her golden paws fringed with black.

Honey and Freddie chased after Luna. So did Lottie. All the dogs (apart from Percy who was weeing on a nettle) jumped over Angus. And then they saw Sidney coming down the track. Lots of high fives, sniffing and jumping. Sadly, Sidney was on his way home, but they would see him another time. Maybe Roopi too?

The bigger humans carried on walking.

'Have you heard anything yet?'

'Well, I sent the photo. And they asked me to send the real thing. I don't think they would have done that if they thought it was just old junk'.

'SO exciting!'.

'I hope I'll hear soon. I posted it last week'.

They walked on, each with their own thoughts.

'Anyone having jacket potatoes for tea?'

They all laughed. 'Potato-gate' had gone viral. In the excitement over the 'FIND' someone had forgotten to stab the potatoes before they went into the oven. When the timer pinged, instead of four golden pillows of winter comfort, there was a potato tornado. Supper that night was a Chinese takeaway. The teasing paused.

'Where are the dogs?'

'And the children!'

'Don't panic', said one of the bigger humans, 'I can hear them in the thicket'.

Indeed, the dogs were in the thicket. The smaller humans were laughing fit to burst, jumping up and down with joy. Such fun! All the dogs had swapped tails. The smaller dogs wore the tails of the bigger ones; the bigger ones had tails at least two dog sizes smaller than they were. All the colours had got mixed up. Honey was going round and round in circles trying to catch the curly black pig tail stuck to her bottom. Luna was trying to catch Bambi's, Freddie - Bobbie's, and Percy, who had Honey's tail, kept falling over. Lottie got so tangled up in Luna's she looked like a giant scarf. Bambi got Lottie's newly washed tail all covered in mud and Bobbie's tail had become an orange bush. Angus got Freddie's tail caught in a tree. He pulled so hard that the tail came off. It hung buoyantly on the branch. Fortunately, Luna did a huge leap and tugged it free. She stuck it back on Angus's bottom.

The bigger humans were now by the thicket. The smaller humans ran out to tell them what was happening. They were so excited.

'Come and see; come and see. Come on!'

And then suddenly, one after the other (like excitable sheep), the dogs bounced onto the path. A quick head count confirmed all were present. And sadly – all correct. The dogs had swapped their tails back. The smaller humans were very disappointed. The bigger humans would think they'd made it all up. They hadn't though. And as everyone made their

way home, the smaller humans told everything over and over, and over and over again. Their story became such a tangle of tails that even the dogs began to wonder who they really were. The tale of the tails was told even more than 'potato-gate'.

No jacket potatoes tonight though. She would try the Winter Warmer again from Cawn. She pulled the newsletter from under a pile of post on the coffee table. A scrunched ball of sweet wrapper tumbled to the floor. Quick as a flash, the dog the gobbled it up. O well, it was only one – and small - not like the colourful (and rather costly) occasion when he'd eaten an entire box of Quality Street and had to be rushed to the vet. Now, where were her glasses? Last time she made Winter Warmer she'd read 'a teaspoon of chilli flakes' as a tablespoon.

They ate a lot of yoghurt that night



Picture by Lila Batt

CHAIR YOGA CLASSES

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TEA TIME TEASER

This month we have expressions and sayings about the weather. Can you work out what they are?

Answers next month

1. A P as T D S 2. I never R B I P 3. R S at N, S D 4. S in A T 5. M H while T S S

- 6. A B from T B
- 7. T H O head I T C
- 8. T T C to T W

Answers to last month's anagrams:

- 1. Malawi
- 2. Botswana
- 3. Austria
- 4. Ukraine
- 5. Paraguay
- 6. Zimbabwe
- 7. Laos 8. Belarus

They all have the fact they are landlocked countries in common

Drains, drains, drains!

please help wipe out blocked pipes.

On Friday 11th February Thames Water were called to the village in response to residents suffering with blocked toilets and incoming sewage water. To their credit Thames Water were quick to unblock the main drain/sewer on Church Lane and returned the next day to 'clean' the whole sewer and drainage system serving the adjacent areas of the village.

There are many causes of sewer flooding but on this occasion the cause of the blockage was reported to be fat/grease poured into sinks/drains and other items being flushed such as wet wipes. So it seems timely to remind residents to:

Bin it - don't block it

Please don't flush wet wipes, cooking oils, fats or nappies and sanitary items, bag those items and place in the bin. For more advice visit Thameswater.co.uk/binit Thank you.

FILMS

Cassington Village Hall would like to thank the stalwart villagers plus committee members who braved the awful weather conditions on Friday 18th February to support us watching the latest James Bond film No Time to Die.

On Friday 4th March the film will be "Spencer"

During her Christmas holidays with the royal family at the Sandringham estate in Norfolk, England, Diana Spencer, struggling with mental health problems, decides to end her decadelong marriage to Prince Charles. Starring Kristen Stewart, Timothy Spall and Jack Nielen.



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SPSA News



Alongside the Christmas Raffle this year we \searrow organised the usual children-designed Christmas

Cards giving us some extra funds. We also flipped our 'Frozen Friday' idea to become 'Not so Frozen Friday' selling Hot Chocolate (with marshmallows!) outside the school gate during November and December which made £97. Thank you to all involved whether helping or supporting us by buying – it's always very much appreciated.

We now look to this coming year and have few ideas in the pipeline. Last year we took part in the Captain Tom Moore 100 Challenge within the school (which was enjoyed by all who took part) and we would like to run a similar event this year – the St Peters 100 Challenge – but thought it might be nice for the wider community to take part. Look out on social media or in the next CAWN for more details of how to get involved.

Louise Judd and Garry Peasley Co-chairs

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

We are planning a musical and songs evening in either April or June. This will be hosted by The Wooden Tops (instrumental and witty humour)supported by other artists.

PLEASE put the date of Sunday May 8th in your diaries to come along and see The Bad Apple Theatre Group production of Elephant Rock.

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.



Drawings, paintings and prints of everyday things Visit **www.planetkev.co.uk** or **@planetkev** on Twitter and Instagram. Always open to requests ... **kevinhinton@btconnect.com**

See more, and other artists, in the Eynsham Art Window – 66 Mill Street, Eynsham

Beautiful handmade greetings cards created by Amelia Bolton. Prices from £2. Follow me on Facebook Email: mimigraceb@icloud.com Call: 01865 731369 Thanks!



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what's on?

Dates for your diary

March 2022

Thursday 3rd 7.30pm Friday 4th 7pm Thursday 17th Saturday 19th 10am-4pm Sunday 20th Sunday 20th Parish Council Meeting Film 'Spencer' WI AGM Eynsham Heritage Day April CAWN deadline Combe Mill Steaming Sunday

April 2022

Thursday 7th 7.30pm Sunday 17th Wednesday 20th Parish Council Meeting Easter Day May 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

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.

BABYSITTING

Do you need a (Cassington) babysitter with good references? Please call/text Amelia on 07732 069003 .

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)) (portrait)

- 1/4 page, £10 (£100 per year) (po
- 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.