



MAY 2022 (#539)

CASSINGTON AND WORTON NEWS

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

Don't forget to vote.

On 5th May 2022 the local elections are taking place and, for the first time in living memory we have a Parish Council election. So make sure you are part of this event making Cassington History!

There are 5 spaces on the Parish Council, and 6 candidates standing and hoping for your vote. On page 7 you can read about each of them.

At the same time you will also be asked to vote for one District Councillor. See page 10 for further information on who is standing.

OXFORDSHIRE ART WEEKS

May sees the return of Oxfordshire Art Weeks with many local artists exhibiting.

Art can be viewed from May 7th – May 29th 2022:

Oxford City May 7th – 15th

South Oxfordshire May 14th-22nd

North Oxfordshire May 21st – 29th

Follow us on @OxonArtweeks.

How B- scored A+!

Congratulations to B minus, the winning team at the Quiz in the Red Lion on Saturday 16th April 2022. It was lovely to see a big crowd of locals all together again. Thanks to the quiz masters Chris Price and Stephen Petty for an excellent seasonal Quiz, and the Red Lion for providing the venue.



The winning team plus quiz masters:
From left to right: Chris Price, Stephen Petty, Jane Bishop (front), Dan Bakewell, Ruth Bakewell, John Bishop.



See fresh art on [Instagram.com/oxfordshireartweeks](https://www.instagram.com/oxfordshireartweeks), follow the hashtag #oxfordshireartweeks and/or sign up for a monthly newsletter at www.artweeks.org/newsletter

MAP NOT TO SCALE

OXFORDSHIRE art WEEKS
Artists exhibiting in Eynsham, Freeland and Cassington
21st – 29th May 2022
See artist profiles at oxfordshireartweeks.org for details and times

- Jane Tomlinson & Paul Tomlinson** – painting & drawing **356**
7 Pigeon House Lane, Freeland OX29 8AG
- Godfrey Phillips, Amanda Bonfiglioli & David Brown** – sculpture, paintings, ceramics, pottery **357**
Garden Cottage Studio, Bell Lane, Cassington OX29 4DS
- Kevin Hinton** – drawing & painting **358**
Mill Lane House, Mill Lane, Cassington OX29 4DL
- Eynsham Art Window** – a showcase for local Artweek artists
66 Mill Street, Eynsham
- Eric White** – pastel paintings & mixed media **359**
28 Mill Street, Eynsham OX29 4JS
- Alison Holmans** – pottery, stoneware & raku **360**
The New House, Tanners Lane, Eynsham OX29 4HJ
- Peter Shrimpton** – sculpture **361**
Tanners Lane, Eynsham OX29 4HJ
- Alison Berrett** – painting & drawing **363**
2 Newfield Cottages, Twelve Acre Farm, Eynsham OX29 4BG
- Alice Walker & Anne Gingell** – paintings and sculpture **362**
The New Barn, Oxford Road, Swinford, Eynsham OX29 4BP

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 Luttmann-Johnson, 3 Foxwell Court, Cassington, OX29 4DW. We look forward to hearing from you.

welcome

Anne's CAWNer

Welcome to the 539th edition of CAWN. We are a bit short on village celebrations this month, but hopefully many of you will appreciate the information on the front page about the various local artists exhibiting in this year's Art Weeks. Many thanks to Kevin Hinton for the map of local venues on the front page.

I must thank Martin and Andy Kerr for their lovely tribute to their Dad, which you will find on page 9. Thanks also to the members of the WI for their recollections, as they decide to call time on the Cassington branch.

On the opposite page you will see 2 of the events that are being organised for the Platinum Jubilee at the beginning of June. Sadly we did not get the funding for the mural that was mentioned in the last edition, but perhaps that might have triggered other thoughts and plans for artwork up at the Playing Fields in due course? And on the subject of the Jubilee many thanks to Sara Bolton for finding the Jubilee themed recipes of the month.

I must also thank the 6 villagers who have come forward to stand for the Parish Council, to fill the vacancies and prevent WODC stepping in and telling us what to do! So far as I could ascertain there has not been a Parish election in living memory, so this is an historic event. Please do read what the candidates have said about themselves, on page 7, and go out and vote!

Finally a last plea for stories for the next edition of when you met the Queen or a member of the Royal Family, or what you were doing on coronation day!

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.



MARSHALLS WANTED

After a couple of quiet years, the roar of motorcycles will return to Cassington on Monday 27th June 2022.

If you can spare an hour or two on the night to keep bikes moving and pedestrians safe please email Dan Bakewell at CassingtonBikeNight@hotmail.com

No experience needed, please do help if you can, it does feel great to be a part of it.

Cassington Bike Night Committee

GOOD FRIDAY GIVEAWAY

Thank you to all those of you who participated in the giveaway. We raised £124.25 in voluntary donations for Ukraine, while at the same time recycling unwanted items.

May stargazing highlights

May 6, 7 - Eta Aquarids Meteor Shower.

The Eta Aquarids is an above average shower produced by dust particles left behind by comet Halley, which has been observed since ancient times. The shower runs annually from April 19 to May 28. It peaks this year on the night of May 6 and the morning of the May 7. The best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Aquarius, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

May 16 - Full Moon.

The Moon's face will be fully illuminated. It was known by early Native American tribes as the Flower Moon because this was the time of year when spring flowers appeared in abundance. This moon has also been known as the Corn Planting Moon and the Milk Moon.

May 16 - Total Lunar Eclipse.

On 16 May 2022 a total lunar eclipse will occur. The whole eclipse will not be visible from the UK, but we'll still be able to see the Moon at totality for a brief period before it sets. The eclipse starts at 2.32am when the Moon enters the Earth's shadow (the penumbra) and totality starts at 4.29am when the Moon crosses into the Earth's umbra, turning it red. The Moon will set shortly after that, at 5.10am. To view the eclipse, find a location with an unobstructed view of the sky and look towards the Southwestern direction.

May 30 - 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.

PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



Cassington
Sports and Social Club



invite you to a

Platinum Jubilee Party

Music and Dancing
Jive Competition
Games
Bar and Snacks

Saturday 4th June 2022
8pm - midnight

Cassington Pavilion

Fun for all the family

Dress: Fifties/red white and blue!

Tickets: £5 from:
amandafancourt@aol.com or 01865 884029
Must be pre-booked (max capacity 100)

SUNDAY 5th JUNE

VILLAGE TEA PARTY

Fun and Games
on the Playing Fields
2.30pm - 5.30pm

Bring a picnic rug
Tea and cake provided or bring your own

Prize for the Best Crown!

Games include:
Treasure Hunt, Tug of War,
Wellie throwing, French cricket,
Rounders, giant outdoor games

Any offers of help to make cakes, organise
games, decorate the Pavilion please email:
helen.barr@lmh.ox.ac.uk



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Memorial Tree Planting Jesse and Betty Bowerman

On Saturday 26th March we planted a tree in Elms Road as a memorial to our beloved Mum and Dad, Jesse and Betty Bowerman. They moved into number 27 Elms Road in 1953 and a few years later moved to number 11, enjoying many happy years there. Jesse died suddenly at home in 2006 and Betty continued to live in the same house until, due to declining health, she was cared for during the last few weeks of her life in Churchfields Care Home, where she died in September 2021.

We would like to say a belated thank you to all who sent messages and kind words after Mum's death. These were very comforting at that time.

Rita, Ken and Christine
Bowerman



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The NHS Big Conversation for Improvement is taking place on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th May 2022. It is a fully virtual (online) space and is open to everyone specially people with lived experience, where you have personal experience of living with or caring for someone with a health condition and people with learnt experience, where you have acquired insights and experience through education and your role. There is no cost to join. You simply need to register in advance.

The Big Conversation will bring people together for a range of interactive discussions, workshops and presentations, giving a space for people to talk through the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, explore continuous improvement opportunities and share fresh insights and ideas on how to promote the improvement of health and care for the benefit of people using health and care services and for those working in and providing the services.

To register go to: <https://www.thebigconversation.nhs.uk/>

Food Bank "Thank you!"

Many thanks again to those who provided a bumper amount of food bank donations last month. However, the crisis of food poverty continues so please continue to contribute (regularly if you can).



The collection box is at the entrance of St Peter's Church Cassington we are supporting:

Eynsham Food bank (07738063083)

North Oxfordshire Food Bank (07929721172)

Please donate tins and dried foods (that are at least 6 months before their "best before date").

Donated items can be placed in the box by the church door where a full list of appropriate items can be found along with some hand steriliser for your safety.

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



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01993 776486

mail@greensfunerals.co.uk
www.greensfunerals.co.uk



ST. PETER'S CHURCH



Tinies Café

Parents, Grandparents & Carers of Toddlers

We run a toddler style Cafe each Tuesday afternoon of term time at Cassington Village Hall 1.30 - 3.00pm
Join us for company, coffee, craft, toys and song
Please come along to join us on the following dates:

APRIL 26th
MAY 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th
JUNE 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
JULY 5th, 12th, 19th

Further details: janeaston53@aol.com

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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>

May 2022

The church is open for individuals' private prayer daily.

Services this month

Sunday 1st May – 9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 8th May – 9.30am BCP Holy Communion

Sunday 15th May - 9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 22nd May – 9.30am Holy Communion
- 6pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 29th May – 9.30am Holy Communion

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

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 / stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com

“No time to die” James Bond

Jane I watched and enjoyed the latest Bond film recently. It certainly is action packed - although I found some of the car chases bordering on silly with 4x4 vehicles flying through the air etc. Bond of course has plenty of gadgets which get him out of some tight spots, and the Aston Martin DB5 is iconic.

However, with Daniel Craig adamant (again) that this is his last Bond film, and (without giving away any “spoilers”), the final twist in the story line of the film leaves a question as to where the James Bond films go in the future.

It may be that the films need to go in a different direction – a complete change and something new is needed.

There are times in history where events cause a complete change in society, even a “paradigm shift”.

The Christian faith centres of course on the person, birth, teaching, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ but has its foundations in the history and religion of the Jewish people. So, the bible divides into two distinct sections – The Old

Testament (old agreement between God and us) and the New Testament (new agreement between God and us).

With Christ there was a paradigm shift. So much so that history itself for many of the world's nations is divided by the birth of Christ into BC and AD. (Before Christ and Anno Domini (The year of the Lord)).

Jesus said once that you don't put a new patch on an old wineskin or put new wine in an old wineskin. (Mark 2:21-22 p40 in your Jubilee New Testament) What he had brought about was not just a modification of the old Jewish faith but that through him God was going to do something completely different.

A sign of this was that when Jesus died on the cross the temple curtain was torn in two, symbolically giving access to God for all people.

Maybe there will be more Bond films to come after a change in direction but for those who follow Christ the 'once and for all' change for us has already been made.

Revd Roger Aston



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YOUR PROSPECTIVE PARISH COUNCILLORS

Barbara King

I have lived in Cassington for 24 years after returning from living in South Africa for 21 years. I was born and trained as a Radiographer in Oxford. I am about to semi-retire from managing the Radiology department at the Manor Hospital, which I have run since it opened. In South Africa I worked in an African township for 7 years. I then joined the South African defence force, where my commission was signed by Nelson Mandela. I am a widow with 2 children, 7 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. I have been on the Parish Council for several years, during which we have had the speed reduced between Cassington and Yarnton and campaigned against the A40 improvements. I am involved in the neighbourhood plan, I fill the dog bag dispensers and check the defib at the village hall. I am an avid reader, and like to sew, and am currently helping my sister renovate her house.



Professor Alex Rogers

My family and I have lived in Cassington for about 12 years. I am a marine biologist with more than 30 years experience exploring the deep ocean but with a wider interest in natural history and environmental sustainability. I have authored a book (The Deep: The Hidden Wonders of the Ocean and How We Can Protect Them). I am Chair of the Cassington Allotment Association and a member of the Local Village Plan Committee. I wrote the Green Infrastructure Plan for Cassington and contributed to the Local Village Plan. I believe that future development of Cassington should prioritise the needs and well-being of all our residents, be regenerative for nature and sustainable with respect to climate and transport. Cassington is a unique community where people actively socialise around core village amenities and really care for each other, and I would very much like to see this continue and improve. In my spare time I fulfil my interest in nature and history through watching wildlife and metal detecting (sometimes both at the same time)!



Chris Metcalf

Cassington has been my home since moving to the village in 2003. I live with my wife, Charlotte, and two children in the Tennis. Our eldest, Teddy, attends St. Peter's school. I've been a parish councillor since 2018, and welcome the opportunity to stand in this year's election. During my time on the PC, we've fought Blenheim's plans to build on the allotments, commissioned the preparation of a neighbourhood plan to set guidelines for future development, successfully applied to have the war memorial grade 2 listed, and opened the parish council website. If elected I'll be working for the installation of a new safe crossing for the school in addition to the planned 20 mph limit through the village, and ensuring that any future development is controlled, small scale, affordable, and meets the needs of the residents of the village. I'd also like to see more green initiatives being undertaken, such as solar panels on the village hall, electric car charging points, and a community orchard, along with improved play facilities at the playing fields and a village car park.



Stew Thompson

Hello everyone - I have been a Cassington resident for the last 18 years. Until recently I was a University lecturer specialising in wildlife conservation, but after 31 years in that post I decided to stand down and spend my "spare" time helping out on local conservation projects. To that end I have been working with St. Peter's School to enhance the wildlife value of the school footprint and helping out with the Oxfordshire. barn owl conservation team. Like most people I have concerns surrounding a number of pressures being exerted on our village, housing development and increased road traffic are currently topics of debate. To date our Parish Council has done a great job in representing these concerns and I would hope to continue in the same vein if elected. Overall I am keen to do what I can to help maintain what makes Cassington a special place - our sense of community.



Graham Mills

Hi there friends and neighbours. You may or may not be aware that I am standing for election to the Cassington Parish Council this May. My family and I have lived in Cassington for the last 12 years and I love the village community we have here. I am a trustee of the Sports and Social Club, where you will often see me sat on the tractor cutting the grass, or setting up the nets for tennis. I am passionate about preserving our village and protecting our community from over development, where it threatens this way of life. There are of course many things we can do better, to improve our green credentials and lessen the negative impact we have on the world around us. I believe this starts with all of us. I certainly wouldn't claim to be an expert, but I do know how to listen to those that are, and if elected I will work tirelessly for this community to achieve the goals that the Parish Council set out.



Simon Witter

I've lived here in Cassington (Hollow Furlong) with my other half and a grumpy cat since 2011. If you don't already know me, here's a quick guide: I am a graphic designer by profession; I am a vegetarian (vegan on a good day); I like to keep fit and enjoy running, tennis and cycling (not all at the same time); I love growing my own veggies and making things (often from recycled materials); I'm an environmentalist and an ethical consumer; I admire honesty and integrity in others (rare qualities in public life these days); I'm not afraid of getting my hands dirty (literally, on my allotment); I'm a problem-solver by nature and I like a challenge (either physical or mental); I like to use my skills and knowledge to help others and that's why I'm standing for the Parish Council. I believe we can achieve great things if we all pull together.





BLLENHEIM PALACE

Come to Blenheim Palace from this April to learn about the Duke's life. Wander through the Palace state rooms to find out more and absorb the history of the Palace. Visit our Battlefields and Baroque Exhibition, where you'll find:

- Costumes from the movie *The Favourite* (based on the life of Sarah), by Oscar winning designer Sandy Powell
- 18th century armour
- 18th century music and instruments
- A court feast
- Maps, documents and artefacts from our archive

BLLENHEIM

Decades of silt have meant the Queen Pool, part of the Blenheim UNESCO World Heritage Site, has become so shallow that it is at risk of drying out completely. We need to ensure that we protect the Estate for future generations, and we're investing in restoration projects such as the Lake Dredge which is vital to Blenheim's longevity. Archaeological work is currently being undertaken on site, and ecological work is underway which is helping to protect our wildlife during the dredge.

Find out more at [Blenheim.org/restoration](https://blenheim.org/restoration)



BLLENHEIM ESTATE

Blenheim Estate is joining forces with Rowse Honey to create over 50 Acres of Sustainable Habitat for Pollinators. The major conservation project forms part of the wider land strategy, as well as Rowse's Hives for Lives programme. As well as significantly increasing the native wildlife diversity by connecting areas of forest and ancient woodland, the partnership aims to engage the local community on the importance of nature, pollinators and sustainable land management.

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

Ken Kerr

26th August 1940 – 4th February 2022

Our Dad, Kenneth Craig 'Ken' Kerr was born on 26th August 1940 in Rutherglen, near Glasgow, and was one of three children. He grew up with his brothers Billy and Jack.

As a child, Dad played football and with his love for Rangers he often supported them by going to matches. He enjoyed horse racing with his father and talked about how his father would take him to Ayr races. If the horses came in, they would get an afternoon tea. Dad enjoyed the buzz of being around people and mixing in different social settings from a young age.

Eventually, Billy married Gloria and emigrated to Canada, followed by Jack moving to Oxford.

At 17, Dad left school and travelled from Scotland alone to follow in Jack's footsteps to Oxford with only a rucksack. On arrival, he looked for digs and a job which would shape his new life in England. Even at 17, Dad had the determination to make a difference and seek out what he enjoyed. Within a short time, he started working on steel fabrications, moving on to British Leyland, where he soon met his wife to be, our Mum Pat, while living in Rose Hill.



Ken, centre with brothers Billy (left) and Jack (right) in Rutherglen.

Dad loved the party times living in Oxford as a young lad and enjoyed life to the fullest. After marrying Mum, Dad started playing football again, for Sutton Courtney in the senior league when they lived in Abingdon and then playing for Cassington for many years after their move to Eynsham. Before settling in Eynsham Mum and Dads first house was in Abingdon where we were born.

On leaving British Leyland Dad went to work for his brother-in-law whom he worked with for over 25 years in the commercial body building trade. This was to become his career for the rest of his life



Enjoying a drink (or two), opposite Pat with some of his many friends in his second home – the Red Lion.

and in late 1994, Dad and Mum started their own body building business, KKB. They made a good team working together and the business became a great success enabling our move to Cassington.

We moved to the nursery in 1995. Dad could walk to the pub at last! This also enabled Dad and Martin to spend many Mondays wandering down to the Red Lion. It became a favourite for them both.

Both Mum and Dad loved the village life. An annual event was the New Year's Eve party after the Lion 'closed' which lasted until the early hours. Every year Dad said they would ask fewer people for it just to become an open invite to all in the pub that night!

With the move to the nurseries, Dad suddenly had a big garden to look after and he did enjoy mowing the grass on the tractor with the dog chasing him. With attention to detail, Dad tried his hardest to trim the grass on the edge of the pit and, on two memorable occasions, both Dad and the tractor ended up in the pit!

Dad always had a great social life in Cassington. Even before moving here, he played football for the village, becoming a committee member of Cassington Sports and Social Club, helping with village fetes, discos and the bingo for many years.

Both Mum and Dad were over the moon being able to live in Cassington and seeing Andy take on the Nursery. But then came a time of great challenge for the family as Mum sadly died. Although we were adults, Dad was determined to do the best, as always, for us and was supported by the warmth and kindness of family and his friends in Cassington.

Dad was lucky to have some very good friends and it was one in particular, Marianne Want, who was especially able to help him through this hard time. Having lost both Mum and Trevor, Marianne's Husband, in such a short space of time they went on to become very special friends for the rest of Dad's life – supporting each other and making memories.

Together they enjoyed great holidays, including a trip to Canada and many walking holidays on the Isle of Arran which Dad often reminisced about. There were also some great nights out

and other social events including Gareth and Clare's wedding and the children's christenings. He was always made very welcome and became a special part of the whole family. They said they will miss him greatly and appreciate his kindness, generosity and support but most of all his great sense of humour.

Dad was a smart man and made the most of every day with us and close friends. He loved socialising in the Red Lion with friends young and old or newcomers that just popped in. Dad often reminisced about playing cards with great friends in the village or enjoying a beer or Scottish whiskey letting everyone know his passion for Scotland.

During the last few years of Dad's life, health challenges meant he could not get out so much, however, he still lived life to the fullest up until early last year and was still a regular in the pub. Martin recalls the Doctor saying "If I was in your shoes I'd only go to the pub for one pint" to which Dad replied "thank god I'm not in your shoes!"

Over the last year Dad looked forward to trips out with us; visits from Marianne were always a favourite or the regular Friday afternoon visit from a great friend Marcus – who always arrived with a bottle of the finest scotch in hand and they would enjoy a few beers and a good chat, whilst watching the racing and laughing!

Dad was an amazing man, he was funny and loved to laugh whilst always determined to get his own way. Dad lived his life to the full and will be remembered for his hard work, the pub, holidays and amongst all other things, being a true villager. Dad had a huge influence on us both over the years and always had a great amount of faith in Andy, especially in the move to the Nursery where he was 100% sure Andy would succeed. With his guidance Andy always learned new things.

He was a loving husband, father, uncle and close friend to many. We know he would not have wanted a big fuss or to be sad – but for you all to remember the good times and let them carry on to the future. Take a moment to remember him over a wee dram at his second home, the next time you are in the Red Lion.

Martin and Andy Kerr

Parish Council News

April 2022

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 12th May 2022 in the village hall with full Covid precautions in place. Everyone is welcome to attend

Neighbourhood Plan.

The Regulation 14 has now ended. The next Neighbourhood Plan meeting is on 10th May 2022

Horsmere Lane and Cassington Lights.

The Parish Council are still awaiting a reply from OCC with regards to the Bio-Diversity meeting. It seems that there has been a few changes in the project.

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. They have been out a few times. 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. Almost all are protected by planning however a register will offer further protection of this important aspect of our village. The Parish Council have had a volunteer and will hopefully start soon.

Play Area

The toddler swing has now been installed. However, the zip wire now needs attention so clerk is trying to find a company to come and fix it.

Parish Council Elections

Parish Council Elections will take place on Thursday 5th May 2022. We have 6 candidates so please go and vote.

Clerk contact details

Mrs Tracey Cameron

Email cassingtonclerk@cassington-pc.gov.uk

Tel:07496 761398

Monday 08:15 – 11:15

Tuesday 11:00 – 14:30

Wednesday 09:00 – 12:00

Thursday 10:45 – 14:15

Friday 11:30 – 12:30

DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

On 5th May there will be an election for one place on West Oxfordshire District Council. There are 4 candidates standing.

Celia Jocelyn KERSLAKE Green Party

Terrel Eugene MOLLEL The Conservative Party

Carl Martin RYLETT Liberal Democrats

Lucy Anne WALLIS Labour Party

Each local party office was contacted and asked for a statement and photo from the candidate. Set out on this page are the ones who provided the information requested.

Celia Kerslake

Green Party

Celia Kerslake is a retired academic in Turkish studies, who taught Turkish language, literature and history at the Universities of Edinburgh (1980-88) and Oxford (1988-2011). Celia has lived in West Oxfordshire since 1988. She has been an active member of the West Oxfordshire Green Party since 2010 and has served as its secretary and membership coordinator for several years. She joined the Green Party because she was attracted by the explicit Philosophical Basis that underlies its policies. She continues to be inspired by its rigorously ethical approach to social, political, economic and environmental issues. If elected to serve as a councillor for the ward, Celia will work for safer routes for cycling and walking, properly insulated homes that people can heat more cheaply and with less carbon impact, and better public transport options, including a tram or rail service along the A40 from Carterton and Witney to Oxford.



VEHICLE WEIGHT RESTRICTION

It has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that there are a large number of lorries coming through the village. As most of you know Cassington has a weight restriction of 7.5T. There are exceptions such as lorries visiting businesses in the village to load or unload.

If you see a lorry above 7.5T in the village and believe that it has not come into the village to visit a business please report it to Oxfordshire County Council at this web address:

[https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/trading-standards/weight-restriction-enforcement.](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/trading-standards/weight-restriction-enforcement)

Carl Rylett

Liberal Democrat Party

Carl Rylett lives with his family in Eynsham and has represented the ward of Eynsham & Cassington for 4 years. He has worked hard for the community, and believes strongly in making sure all residents' views are listened to when making any decisions. At the district council he has been on the planning committee, environmental scrutiny committee and climate action working party. He has a particular interest in tackling the climate and ecological crises, pushing for new houses to be both high standard and more affordable, and supporting local community initiatives such as the nature recovery network. At his day job, Carl works for a company which publishes scientific and medical research. And in his spare time Carl writes and hosts a podcast on European history.



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Recipes of the Month

Jubilee Tray bake

In preparation for the village jubilee tea party why not try these BBC Jubilee themed recipies.

Ingredients

Sponge

100g butter or baking spread, softened, plus extra for the tin
175g self-raising flour
50g ground almond
2 tsp baking powder
4 large eggs
225g caster sugar
125ml full-fat Greek yogurt
zest 2 lemons

Butter icing

175g butter , softened
350g icing sugar , sieved

Decoration

300g raspberry
175g blueberry

Method:

Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Butter and line a 30 x 20cm traybake tin with baking parchment. Measure all the sponge ingredients into a mixing bowl and mix with an electric hand whisk until smooth. Spoon into the tin and level the surface. Bake for 25-30 mins until lightly golden, the top of the cake springs back when pressed, and the sponge is shrinking away from the sides of the tin. Lift the sponge out of the tin, and place on a wire rack to cool. Remove the baking parchment.

To make the icing, tip the butter into a bowl and whisk using an electric hand whisk until light and fluffy. Add half the icing sugar and whisk until incorporated. Add the remaining sugar and whisk until smooth. Spread the icing over the top of the cold cake.

To decorate, place a double row of raspberries across the centre and down the length of the cake to make a cross. Next, place a single row diagonally from each corner to the middle. Now fill in the empty spaces with blueberries. Cut into squares to serve.

Woodstock & District u3a

Spring 2022 is a busy time for University of the Third Age members. In May it will be 40 years since the creation of the u3a movement. A number of national events are planned, including a 'monster picnic in the park' – simultaneous garden parties all over the country. One such is on the cards for Woodstock & District Society members and their friends. Check the website for forthcoming information.

www.u3a-sites.org.uk/woodstock

Monthly meetings with guest speakers are booked through to the end of the calendar year. On 12 May our guest speaker will be Jim Holmes, author of travel guides to Japan; his title - 'Bowling to Tradition' - reflects the way in which Japanese society has established a balance between age-old tradition and modernity. Unusually, this talk will be available only via Zoom. On 2 June, however, the talk on 'Music of Cole Porter' should be accessible both on-line and live at the St. Hugh's Centre in Woodstock.



Bunting biscuits

Ingredients

350g plain flour , plus a little extra for rolling
100g cold butter , diced
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
140g light soft brown sugar
1 large egg
75g golden syrup
2 tsp vanilla extract

To decorate

1kg pack ready-to-roll icing
few food colourings and writing icing pens, in your favourite colours

Method

Put the flour, butter, bicarb and sugar in a food processor, whizz until you can't see any lumps of butter, then tip into a mixing bowl. Whisk the egg, syrup and vanilla together, then stir into the bowl with a wooden spoon. Using your hands, knead together into a smooth dough.

Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Cut a triangle template from card the size you want the bunting to be. Roll out dough on a lightly floured surface. Use template to cut out triangles – re-roll trimmings to get as many as you can. Line some baking sheets with baking parchment and lift on the biscuits. Use a pencil end to make 2 holes in the top of each one – not too close to the edge. Bake, one tray at a time, for 8-10 mins, remaking each hole when biscuits are just out and still soft. Cool. Un-iced biscuits can be frozen for up to 3 months, or will keep in an airtight container for a week.

Divide the icing into as many colours as you want, and knead in food colourings to get your desired colours. Roll out thinly on a surface lightly dusted with icing sugar, and use your template to cut out icing triangles. Brush the backs of the icing with a little water and stick onto the biscuits – making holes in the icing to match the biscuits as you go. Cut out small circles from leftover icing, brush backs with water and stick onto some of the biscuits. Decorate with icing pens, if you wish, then carefully thread through ribbon or string and hang up your treats.



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Closure of Cassington W.I.

The W.I. movement started in 1919.

Cassington members have contributed to the village in many ways. In 1921 our ladies, wearing long dresses and big hats, set off to visit London in an open charabanc, and the whole village turned out to see them off. Imagine the excitement! Unfortunately the archives were lost, including the banner, in a fire.

In 1945, after the war, Cassington W.I. was known for its excellent catering for large parties such as weddings and funerals, and any other parties. But it was suspended in 1968 due to falling members.

It was re-formed in 1971, with mostly new members from the new houses in the village, but a few of the original members returned. Since then it has continued very successfully to this day, and has contributed to the village in many ways.

The outside catering ceased but the W.I. had many wonderful occasions of their own. Every year there was a wonderful supper at the annual meeting, any excuse for a feast!

For many years the W.I. hosted the village carol concert at Christmas with Mike Liddell acting as Master of Ceremonies and Dorothy Waters at the keyboard. The whist drives were particularly successful with village residents in particular those who lived in Elms Road.

The W.I. were also responsible for the bulbs around the trees on the village green - they planted them all.

Members enjoyed numerous outings, hardly any part of Oxfordshire and surrounding counties missing out on their enthusiasm. Visits always included a delicious lunch en route more often than not in a village pub. No one can forget the train trips each year to famous destinations such as London, Lincoln, Norwich and Swansea to name but a few, and partaking of a meal in the train restaurant on the way home! Remember those gourmet meals!

Many members took advantage of the high quality courses available at Denman College, which was run by the W.I., and members learned many new skills there.

Sadly it's come to an end, and Cassington W.I. is now suspended due to falling membership. At our final meeting in March we "went out with a bang" with lovely Fish and Chips delivered to us from "Off the Hook" chippy in Long Hanborough, and beautiful, rich, delicious desserts made by Jane Cook, a longtime member, and of course soft drinks and wine. It was a fun, bittersweet evening spent with close friends, and promises to meet for coffee once a month and lunch once a month.

We hope that younger ladies might take up the baton one



day and start another ladies group in the village. Of one thing you can be sure, they will never have more fun than we did!

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Churchfields News

As the flowers begin to bloom in our eco-garden and Easter celebrations are looming, we have been keeping very busy with activities, celebrations and outings over the past few weeks which everyone has very much enjoyed. We are looking forward to a lovely, fun and active spring here at Churchfields, whilst beginning plans for the warmer months of summer.

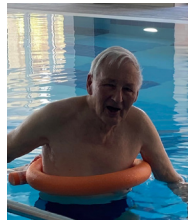


We have been so pleased to see Roger in our home recently for some socially distanced music and singing sessions, which we have all enjoyed listening to!



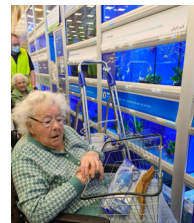
Some of our residents have been watching and listening to the birds whilst refilling the bird feeders, checking on the vegetables regularly, insect hunting and picking flowers from the garden.

We were also pleased to grant Geoff's Dignity Action Day wish of swimming! He had an absolutely fabulous time swimming with the help of some of our very special carers.



Everyone in the home is pleased to finally announce that we took a trip out recently to choose some fish ready to start our lovely aquarium! We can't wait to reveal this as soon as it is ready.

There has been a tremendous amount of cake-eating here at Churchfields as we have been celebrating some very special birthdays. Most recently, everyone enjoyed celebrating Beryl's 101st birthday at Churchfields! Beryl also had a visit from her other daughter, grandsons and granddaughter in law. She even had a very special FaceTime from South Africa from one of our carers who she shares a special bond with. There was lots of love, laughter and smiles from all of us at Churchfields whilst celebrating this special day.



Don't forget that Churchfields is recruiting new care assistants, housekeeping staff and a driver. We're looking for individuals who share our enthusiasm for care. Join the professional, friendly, fun and supportive team. We know that our work culture is second-to-none, and you will love every minute of supporting our brilliant residents. All enquiries of interest are welcome at the home.

Successful candidates will benefit from excellent training opportunities, a high staff to resident ratio, strong leadership, and supportive management. Contact Care Home Manager, 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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OBSERVATION

by Stephen Wright

This month's column comes to you from Starbucks at Pear Tree services on Sunday, April 17. I have just enjoyed a slice of banana bread and am sipping a latte ahead of my return to the city of dreaming spires.

It's been quite the weekend. Yesterday I was on a private plane with Delia Smith to and from Manchester to watch Norwich City lose 3-2. Tomorrow I'll be waking up in Cassington, reunited with the cat that couldn't care less about my homecoming. It all remains slightly surreal.

It should go without saying that my time with Flo has come to an end. Maybe it's because I beat her at crazy golf three times in a row. I'll pick myself up, dust myself off and get ready to go again. My colleague Rhianna (no not that one) is trying to set me up with her friend Chloe, but Chloe was too busy dog sitting to introduce herself last night, so I remain a member of Cassington Singles for 2022, subject to unlikely change.

Or do I? Just hours after those words were written, I got a video call from a woman called Jess on the dating app Hinge, as she was out with her friend on the Bank Holiday weekend. It was a pleasant surprise, so that's why Lorna Mills saw me in a good mood walking around the village the same evening. Let's see how it all goes wrong this time...

THE SILVER PIN

by Helen Barr

With every step his feet got heavier. The floods had turned the fields to mud. But at last, he could see some wooden buildings. He pulled up his hood. It was dangerous to travel alone. He would slip into Creston through the thicket.

He could see the great hall. But that was too dangerous. He spied a cow shed. That would do. The cows would be warm and there would be straw. He stepped inside and sank down exhausted.

'Ouch!' A mop of black curly hair shot out of the straw. 'Who are you?'

The stranger was startled. 'My name is Frith, son of Arnskir. I do not mean to harm you.'

'I am Wynn, son of Alfwin. I know you come in peace.'

Frith was even more startled, 'how do you know?'

'Gilden didn't bark.'

And then Frith noticed the golden dog by Wynn's side. Gilden trotted over and licked Frith's hand. A bramble in the thicket had cut it, and it was bleeding.

'You are a stranger to Creston', said Wynn.

'I am', sighed Frith. 'I have walked from Ayensham. But I come not from these lands. I am from the northern kingdom. When the wars came I was taken prisoner and so was my father'. As he spoke this, Frith clutched the leather pouch that hung at his waist.

Wynn noticed but said nothing.

'My captor was kind. I was still a boy. When the army returned south, he asked the monks at Ayensham to give me home and shelter. I have lived there since.'

'So why have you come to Creston – and come here alone?', asked Wynn.

'I was banished. I made a painting in a precious book. The Abbot was angry.'

'A book?'

'Have you never seen letters?' And words on parchment?'

Wynn shook his head. 'We have no such things in Creston.'

'Your name is a letter', said Frith, and he drew a shape in the dirt on the floor. Wynn stared. 'That is my name?'

'Yes, your name is an ancient carving letter called a "wynn". Your name means joy.'

Gilden walked round the shape, sniffed it, and went back to lick Frith's hand.

'Why are you in the cowshed?' asked Frith, 'do you look after the cows?'

Wynn laughed. 'No. I am the son of the thane. But there is a feast tonight in the great hall. I love the food, but then the harp is passed around the beer benches and you must sing a story when it reaches you. I can't sing'. He paused. 'When did you last eat?'

'I took a piece of bread with me and half an onion. I drank from the streams.'

Wynn rustled amongst the straw and pulled out a chicken leg and a hunk of wild boar. Gilden's ears pricked but Wynn nudged him gently away.

Wynn tore off the meat, threw some to Gilden, and shared the rest with Frith. 'I took a flagon of beer from the feast too.'

'Thank you, my friend. I am so tired. May I sleep here?'

'Of course. Gilden will lie between us; no wild beasts shall find us for their prey.'

Frith was already asleep. Gilden lay down next to him. And Wynn beside. Before he closed his eyes, Wynn noticed that Frith's hand was still clutching his leather pouch.

They were woken by a loud bang. Wynn and Frith struggled to their feet, Gilden stood between them.

Three men strode into the shed. Their swords gleamed in the morning light.

'Well, well, well', said the tallest, stroking his tawny beard. 'Who do we have here?'

'My name is Frith, son of Arnskir', Frith stammered.

'I am Alfwin, son of Linden, chief thane of this village. And, you, my son, are sheltering a criminal.'

'He's my friend', said Wynn, 'please don't harm him'.

Alfwin turned to his companions. Swarthy the Blacksmith folded his powerful arms across his huge chest and grunted.

The third man was the strangest person Frith had ever seen. He was completely bald apart from one thick lock of black hair that sprung from the top of his head like a dog's curly tail. His left hand, which lacked a thumb, was bright green.

'Well,', said Rune (for that was the fellow's name), 'it seems we have a man of letters here'.

He pointed his green hand at the letter that Frith had drawn in the dirt. And suddenly it turned red.

Frith was astonished. The others didn't bat an eyelid. They were used to Rune.

'It doesn't take a Sherlock Holmes to work out that two sets of muddy footprints and a missing beer flagon add up to someone harbouring an exile'.

Now, everyone did look baffled.

'O, sorry', said Rune, 'Sherlock Holmes hasn't been invented yet'.

Alfwin sighed. What had he done to deserve a wise man who talked in riddles? But the thane was deeply troubled. Wynn had committed a crime and deserved punishment. But Wynn was his only son. His friend did not look like a criminal. Clearly, Gilden didn't think so. He was rubbing against Frith's legs, wagging his tail.

Alfwin cleared his throat.

'The village must decide this case. I will call a moot at midday. In the meantime, Swarthy take the prisoner to your forge and guard him fast'.

Swarthy tied Frith's hands behind his back with rope as thick as sausages. There were tears in Wynn's eyes. Gilden started to whine.

'As for you, lad, home with me. Now'.

Wynn watched sadly as Swarthy led Frith from the cowshed. Gilden tried to follow but Wynn whistled softly, and the dog padded back to his master.

'Rune, come back to the hall with us. I need your advice'.

Alfwin turned to his wise man. But Rune had vanished.



Picture by Finley Britton

TEA TIME TEASER

This month we have expressions and sayings to do with colours? Can you work out what they are?

Answers next month

1. Once I A B M
2. To P T T R
3. T P C the K B
4. T scream B M
5. T B G with E
6. T look A W A A S
7. T see I I B A W
8. S T W through R-T G

Answers to last month's lines from songs:

1. I have seen the writing on the wall - "Another Brick in the Wall part 3" by Pink Floyd
2. Her beauty and the moonlight overthrew you. - "Hallelujah" by Leonard Cohen (recorded by others as well)
3. There she stood in the doorway - "Hotel California" by the Eagles
4. That the fire in your heart is out - "Wonderwall" by Oasis
5. Sitting on a cornflake - "I am the Walrus" by the Beatles
6. And I think somebody somewhere must be tolling a bell - "Bat out of Hell" by Meatloaf
7. Racing around to come up behind you again - "Time" by Pink Floyd
8. The scars of your love remind me of us - "Rolling in the Deep" Adele

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Village Hall events

Elephant Rock

On Saturday 8th May 2022 Badapple Theatre will be performing Elephant Rock in the village hall. See poster on this page!

The heyday of the great British Seaside Holiday may have gone but the memories remain. So too does the old Palace Theatre, once perched proudly on the pier in sight of the mighty Elephant Rock, and boasting its own fabulous attraction, The Amazing Mechanical Elephant. But the relentless tides have chipped away at the coast, and Elephant Rock and its mechanical counterpart are long gone, as if instinct and longing have lured them off to the land of their ancestors.

Join us as we watch the comic yet heartfelt attempts of the mismatched team who are determined that the Palace doors stay open, as they discover a family history that stretches across a hundred years and five thousand miles from the rocky coast of England to the sweeping grasslands of Sri Lanka.

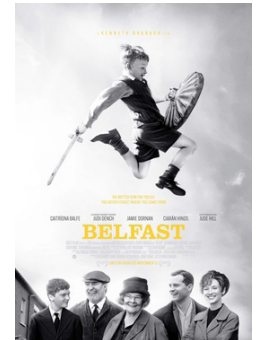
Doors 6pm. Starts 6.30pm

Tickets from Adie Gregory (01865 881601) or Kathryn Teal (07964 726843)

Forthcoming Films:

The Film on Friday 13th May will be Belfast.

Belfast, 15 August 1969. Surrounded by sporadic violence and growing danger, nine-year-old Buddy finds himself confronted with the ugly reality of sectarian conflict. And, as the suffocating stranglehold of increasing turmoil tightens around his once-peaceful working-class neighbourhood, Buddy tries his best to understand The Troubles--after all, someone must be responsible for forcing people to flee their homes. Now, Buddy's family must come face to face with a nearly impossible, life-altering decision: stay or start packing?



On Friday 10th June the film will be Death on the Nile.



Belgian sleuth Hercule Poirot's vacation aboard a glamorous river steamer turns into a terrifying search for a murderer when a picture-perfect couple's idyllic honeymoon is tragically cut short. Set against an epic landscape of sweeping Egyptian desert vistas and the majestic Giza pyramids, this tale of unbridled passion and incapacitating jealousy features a cosmopolitan group of impeccably dressed travelers, and enough wicked twists and turns to leave audiences guessing until the final, shocking denouement.

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Mill Lane House, Mill Lane, Cassington **SITE 358**
End of the gravel lane opposite The Chequers

ARTWEEKS FESTIVAL GUIDE AND ARTIST DIRECTORY – www.artweeks.org

P D Lewis

Garden Consultancy Services

30 years of gardening experience in wildlife and Cotswold cottage style gardens.

Let me help you to enjoy your garden.

07775713269

Piers.lewis.pl@gmail.com

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS

If you are in need of flower arrangements then please message me, I would love to help. I can create table arrangements, wreaths for doors, funeral flowers and small weddings.

Just message me to discuss your requirements and I hope I can help.

Please message to order

Tel Ruth 07768 450095

Ruth.bakewell@googlemail.com

Thanks xx



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 .

DOG WALKER

Do you have a dog? Do you want it walked by a responsible 16yr old dog-owner? I am free to walk your dog from 3:30pm – 6pm on weekdays and 10am-6pm on weekends. Very reasonable prices! If you are interested please contact Seren on 07740184757 or email me at 17bowersser@bartholomew.oxon.sch.uk for more information

what's on?

Dates for your diary

May 2022

Thursday 5th	Local elections
Sat 7th - Sun 29th	Oxfordshire Art Weeks
Sunday 8th	Elephant Rock
Thursday 12th 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Friday 13th	Film "Belfast"
Wed 18th - Sat 21st	Bartholomew Players "Ladies Day"
Friday 20th	June CAWN deadline

June 2022

Thursday 9th 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Friday 10th	Film "Death on the Nile"
Monday 20th	July CAWN deadline
Monday 27th	Bike Night

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

Gardening Tips for May



- Watch out for late frosts. Protect tender plants.
- Earth up potatoes, and plant any still remaining.
- Plant out summer bedding at the end of the month.
- Regularly hoe off weeds.
- Check for nesting birds before clipping hedges.
- Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of spring bulbs.
- Mow lawns weekly, but leave some uncut for wildlife.
- Water early and late to get the most from your water.

CAWN Advertising rates

Village events and fund-raising stuff is free. Simple local services, 'for sales' etc., are also free on the "noticeboard" page/section. However donations towards printing costs welcomed. Suitable commercial businesses are invited to support our community by buying advertising space at the following rates:

1/8 page, £6 (£60 per year)	(landscape)
1/4 page, £10 (£100 per year)	(portrait)
1/2 page, £15 (£150 per year)	(landscape)
Full page, £25 (£250 per year)	(portrait)

Technical details for artwork are available on request. All material included at the discretion of CAWN. Any surplus will be passed to the Cassington Parochial Charities to support our community.