

### CONGRATULATIONS BONNIE and NYALL

Congratulations to Bonnie Harvey and Nyall Seward on their engagement. Nyall proposed whilst they were skiing in the French alps.



Bonnie grew up in Cassington. Nyall is from Derbyshire, where he grew up on the family dairy farm. This is where Bonnie and Nyall now live, with their two Labradors Purdy and Remie, in a barn conversion that they designed and project managed themselves. Nyall farms with his father and brothers, whilst Bonnie works for Fisher German property agents as a Utility Project Coordinator.

No date or plan for the wedding has been confirmed as yet; they're at the 'ideas' stage so watch this space...



### 900 year celebrations

On Sunday 8th January many were surprised to see knights in armour, some on horseback, congregating on the village green. However this was only the start of what turned out to be a wonderful celebration of the 900th anniversary of the consecration of St Peter's church.

The church itself has acquired a large wall mural, created by the children of St Peter's school representing the development of the community and the wider world over the last 900 years. Also in the church were some glorious figures, created by the children at St Peter's Art Club (see the article on page for more details 4 of the mural and throughout the



newsletter you will find pictures and comments on the figures and why they were chosen).

The Bishop of Dorchester led the service of celebration and then, as the congregation left the church, they were led to the village hall by the honoured guests from time gone by. A splendid lunch took place, followed by the formal opening of the displays in the church, which people could then view throughout the afternoon, along with enjoying tea and cake in the hall.



### Photography Competition

See page 7 for last month's winner and details of future themes.

Rollover prize of £30 for best under 16 photo!

Closing Date for entry: 15th February

# welcome Anne's CAWNer

Welcome to the 548th edition of CAWN and what a jam packed edition this is! The celebration in January, for the 900th anniversary of St Peter's Church, was a truly spectacular affair, which has sparked a number of emails and messages to CAWN thanking all those involved. You will find them throughout this edition printed in italics for ease of identification.

I would also like to add my thanks to those who have provided content for this edition. In particular I would like to thank Jess Jones and the children in St Peter's School Art Club for letting me attend a session and for giving me their thoughts on the art work they created and the day itself.

Also many thanks to Hannah Farncombe who helped the children research the characters which they recreated as figures in the church, and whose words are included by way of a description of each character and their relevance to Cassington. Many thanks also to Pasquale Bruno who supplied almost all the photographs of that day.

The Photography Competition received a number of entries in the adult class, and on page 7 you can see the winning entry for Cassington Celebrates. However somewhat disappointingly there were no entries in the under 16 category, meaning that next month there is a rollover prize of £30. So please encourage your youngsters to get snapping!

As always please send any suggestions for future content to me at the usual address.

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.

## CASSINGTON VILLAGE HALL AGM NEW DATE!

Tuesday 28th February 2023 @ 7.15pm

Can you help the Sports & Social Club  
Can you set up a standing order  
to give us £10 per year  
If enough people do this then  
we can continue to claim gift aid  
on Bike Night donations.

Please see the report on our AGM on p11  
Thank you

*"A big thank you to you all for supporting and assisting with the launch of the celebrations to mark 900years of St. Peter's Church on January 8th . The Church was full for the service with the Bishop of Dorchester attending, some of the congregation processed to the Village Hall lead by knights on horse back, where a delicious lunch was cooked and served by Sue Hemingway ,Ellen O'Donnell and helpers. Village artists Hannah Farncombe Sue Hemingway, Kevin Hinton and Jess Jones exhibited the primary school's art work in the church to the delight of all. The day ended with tea and chat in the hall. It was throughout a very happy memorable day."*  
Chair of friends of St Peter's  
Ninon Linnell

## Cassington Cafe

Welcome to Cassington Cafe on the first Thursday of each month between 10 and 12. Please note: In May we will meet on the second Thursday as the hall is in use for elections on the first Thursday

We could do with folk to help us put tables and chairs out and away again. And while we will supply tea, coffee and biscuits, if you can bring some home baking on occasion it would be very welcome.

If you want any more information or can offer help, please contact Hugh or Ruth on 01865 880475

## February stargazing highlights

### February 5 - Full Moon.

The Moon will be fully illuminated. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Snow Moon because the heaviest snows usually fell during this time of the year. Since hunting is difficult, this moon has also been known by some tribes as the Hunger Moon.

### February 20 - 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.

## ST PETER'S SCHOOL



There is much for St Peter's school to celebrate this month. With our glowing Ofsted report released at the start of term, and our part in the 900 years of St Peter's Church opening celebrations, we are off to a flying start to the year!

[www.st-petersoxon.co.uk/ofsted-and-performance-data/](http://www.st-petersoxon.co.uk/ofsted-and-performance-data/)

Our Ofsted inspection was an ungraded inspection meaning the inspectors came to ensure that the school was still a good school. We were pleased to be able to show all that St Peter's has to offer and as you will see from the report, the inspectors were very impressed. We were particularly pleased with the comments around our vision and values which forms the cornerstone of our learning. Also, the comment 'Pupils want to know more, care for each other and serve others' really does encapsulate the school very well.

Throughout CAWN you will see photos and contributions from the children for the start of the 900 years celebrations. The children were really pleased to be involved with the art project for the church and were proud to see their efforts unveiled on the church wall depicting how times have changed in Cassington since the church was built.

Art Club, led by Jess Jones, had also spent many weeks designing and making life size figures of people through the ages. This was a huge project from start to finish and it was wonderful for the children's ideas to be showcased in this way. Thank you to John Hemingway for the organisation of the event and Hannah Farncombe, Kevin Hinton and Sue Hemingway who guided our creativity with the whole school art project.

We look forward to the community events during the rest of 2023 to celebrate St Peter's church and in the summer we celebrate 50 years of St Peter's school at this site. We will give details of events to celebrate this closer to the time.

With very best wishes,

Jon Jeffries  
Headteacher

Unlocking...

Minds that learn      Hearts that love      Faith that gives



### CASSINGTON TINIES & TODDLERS (Tinies Café) Spring 2023

#### A Parent/Carer & Toddler group

Cassington Village Hall 1.30 –3.00 on Tuesday

(other than where stated, term-time only)

February 7<sup>th</sup>, no session 14<sup>th</sup> (half term), 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>

March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14, 21st (last session this term)

#### Toys, crafts, songs & refreshments for under-fives and their carers.

This group is being run by St Peter's church Cassington with local parents

For more information please contact:

Jane Aston at [janeaston53@aol.com](mailto:janeaston53@aol.com) Tel: 01865 880757

## PHILIP JOHN DELAFIELD

passed peacefully away on 29th December 2022.

Husband of Sandra, father of James and adored Grandad of Henry and Jessica.

He had been a partner of Jericho Farm since 1960.

The funeral will take place on Friday 3rd February 2023 at 12 noon at South Oxfordshire Crematorium, Garford OX13 5PA

## Cassington Boxing Day football match 2022

Under a beautiful blue near cloudless sky, on a remarkably grassy pitch, the annual Cassington football classic took place again on Boxing Day. Desperate for revenge after the previous year's thrashing, the Singles had something to prove. And with age, pace and agility on their side, plus no shortage of skill, they lined up hopeful though short on numbers. The Marrieds meanwhile, still basking in the previous year's glory, had more than a full complement of players, so had the luxury of rotation and even loans to the Singles.



Ref Stuart got the game underway with whistle number 1. And it was, without exaggeration, one of the best halves for years. Fine play, 3 excellent goals apiece, and a notable lack of questionable tackles, all made for a great watch from the side. So it was finely poised at half time.

The second half turned out to be a slightly different story. Whilst Graham Mills was happy on loan as he got to wear a red kit, he was less happy to concede a penalty for his adopted team (which was dispatched clinically by Sean Osgathorp). And with a second penalty conceded (for handball) things started to look somewhat ominous for the Singles. And despite plenty of possession for the Singles and efforts on goal, in the end the finishing prowess of the Marrieds carried them to a margin of victory that seemed unlikely at half time. So congratulations to the Marrieds on what was a calm, measured and well deserved 7-4 win.

Despite being on the losing team, I'd give Player of the Game to Richard Petty, who in his Boxing Day debut, showed terrific control and assured finishing.

The legendary Cassington Boxing Day football match delivered once again - thoroughly enjoyed by a sizeable crowd. The Singles will be desperate for a win next time, and we've less than a year to wait to see if they can do it.

Lionel Bolton



## 'Cassington Over 900 Years'

**by St Peter's School**

Created by all the children at St Peter's School during two days in December 2022, this artwork is a collaboration between the school, the Friends of St Peter's Church and Cassington-based artists.

The artwork is 7 x 1.5 metres and reads from left to right, showing objects, people, animals and activities that represent life across the centuries from 1100 to the present day; and has St Peter's Church depicted in 8 panels, at the heart of it all. The top and bottom frieze, created by Apple Class, the youngest children in the school, is a motif taken from the interior of the Church's South door. They sponged, painted, crayoned and stencilled to create the effect. To achieve the overall artwork, the 90 panels and frieze have been assembled on a single sheet of paper mounted on a wooden frame.

The project was launched with a whole-school session led by John Hemingway, project sponsor. The children and staff met with the artists to explore the history of Cassington and artistic techniques. Jim Hague played live some folk tunes appropriate to different eras.

Among the older children, reception to 11 yr olds, each class researched a different era and came up with aspects of Cassington life to depict:

Oak Class – Middle ages

Maple Class – Tudors, Elizabethans, Civil War

Willow Class – Industrial revolution up to modern day

Each child created their own panel expressing their individual interest in occupations; events; activities; landscape & environment; domestic life; buildings; transport; fashion; music; weapons; communications as they were relevant to their era. The classes worked together to ensure a wide spread of unique subjects and made drafts before their final pieces.

The background colours, running horizontally in bands, represent the unchanging natural landscape of Cassington: fields and grassland; rivers and streams; woods; sky. These link all the subjects together, whilst the subjects themselves show the progression and increasing complexity of life over the centuries.

The main medium was acrylic paint and this is complemented by oil pastels and collage. The children developed their skills in using the different mediums, working at scale and with colourful impact for an audience looking up from a distance of several metres.

The Friends of St Peter's Church met all costs and provided materials and equipment for the artwork and these remain in school for future children's art activities.

Finally, a huge thanks to all who participated: the children, learning support assistants, teachers, head teacher Jon Jeffries, artists Kevin Hinton, Sue Hemingway and Hannah Farncombe, Dan Bakewell from Fineprint, Friends of St Peter's Jan Macdonald and, of course, our sponsor and carpenter John Hemingway who had the inspiration and supported every aspect.

## **St Peter's School Art Club's 'Historical Figures'**

led by Jess Jones

Placed around the Church were nine large standing figures representing Cassington's historical links with both local and national events over the centuries. Based on initial text and picture research undertaken by John Hemingway and Hannah Farncombe, the children at Art Club chose the character they wanted to portray and used a variety of mediums. They worked in small groups over a term and wrote about their character and their choice of mediums.

For this project, Art Club was joined by five Year 7s from Bartholomew (former St Peter's students), Sue Hemingway and Hannah Farncombe. Thank you to Dan Bakewell and the Friends of St Peter's Church for providing paper, card and constructing wooden stands.



After the event Jess Jones said " The children have been so hardworking and joyful. Considering they're aged between 8-11 to be working for 10 weeks on one project requires some perseverance. Absolutely every single thing in the art work was their own work – they learnt how to do proportion and faces, use collage and tonal acrylic to create folds in the fabric. They thought really carefully about the personality of the character and facial expressions. I am so proud of what they achieved."

Throughout this edition you will find photographs of these characters, along with a brief description of them and in some cases quotes by the children who worked on them.

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

## FEBRUARY 2023

The church is open for individuals' private prayer daily.

### Services this month

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February – 9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February – 9.30am Morning Worship**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February – 9.30am Holy Communion**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Ash Wednesday  
9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February - 9.30am Morning Worship  
- 6pm Evening Prayer**

**On-line streamed services are available every Sunday from 10.30 am at  
[www.stpeterschurchcassington.org](http://www.stpeterschurchcassington.org) or [www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk](http://www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk)**

If you have particular spiritual needs feel free to contact:

*The Vicar – Revd Duncan Fraser Tel: 07810 324088 or  
Enquiries: Church Office: email [stleonards\\_stpeters@btconnect.com](mailto:stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com)*

### Food Bank News.

A big THANK YOU to all those who have given



extra generously to our local food banks recently via the box at St Peter's Church and/or via single financial donations or regular standing order. We support:

Eynsham Food bank (07450 328530)

North Oxfordshire Food Bank (07929721172)

As well as food donations the food

banks are increasingly relying on financial donations. Please phone the food banks direct if you can support in this way. (Numbers above)

If you need food support or know someone who is in need, please phone the food banks direct at the numbers above or contact our clergy Duncan Fraser (vicar) 07810 324088 or Roger Aston 01865 880757 or your neighbourhood watch rep.

Thank you.

### Panto Food Bank Donation

On Monday 19th Lorna Mills went to Witney Food Bank and delivered a cheque for £1,000 and a car full of tins



- see picture. Thank you to all those who helped raise this impressive sum and for your generous food donations.

## THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST PETER, EYNHAM

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Masses at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Eynsham

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

Face coverings required with social distancing.

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

Contact details:-Parish Priest: Fr Mark Lagorio

Tel: 01865 881613

Email : [stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com](mailto:stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com)

Parish Safeguarding Representative:

Eric White [ericj\\_white@yahoo.co.uk](mailto: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.

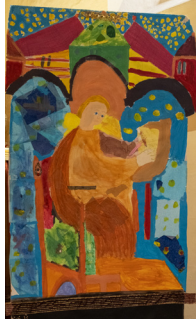
Churchservices.tv

<https://www.mcnmedia.tv/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/Godzdogz>

## 900s-1000s – Aelfric, Abbot of Eynsham

Aelfric was the biggest writer in Old English. He was very important in making sure the Church was established in England, by translating the first 6 books of the Bible from Latin into Old English. This was the first time the Old Testament had been translated in this country. Eynsham Abbey was very important in Christianity in Britain and Aelfric was it's most admired and famous abbot.



Aelfric wrote a huge collection of Saints' Lives. He wrote about a monk called Cuthbert who lived in the 8th century on an island called Lindisfarne off the north East Coast. He tells how Cuthbert loved nature and could speak with animals. He made a deal with the geese around his hut so they didn't snatch straw from the roof. He would go into the freezing sea to pray all night. In the morning, otters came out from the sea to warm Cuthbert's feet.

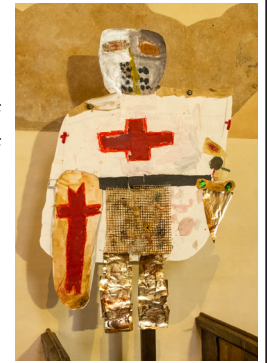
He also tells the story of a young woman called Euphrosyne who did not want to get married. To escape her father she manages to gain entry to a monastery disguised as a man. She lived there undetected for 38 years until she died.

During Aelfric's lifetime the British Isles was repeatedly attacked by Vikings. Many of Aelfric's works try to inspire the English people in the time of such trouble.

*"This was a really good way to learn about history."*

## 1123 Geoffrey De Clinton

Geoffrey had St Peters Church built. He was King Henry I's treasurer and chamberlain and was appointed by the king to be Sheriff of Warwickshire. He became one of the richest people in the country at the time, but he was suspected by his enemies of financial misdealings whilst in the king's service. Geoffrey is said to have paid King Henry around £2000 to make sure his nephew, Roger, was elected Bishop of Coventry. He was a very influential Roman Catholic, so he is buried in the sacred site of Walsingham.



Knees crossed in tombs mean this knight went on 2 Crusades: wars to make Jerusalem Christian. People went on the Crusades to fight for different reasons. The First Crusade began in November 1095 when the Pope proposed for people to go to Jerusalem. They would be forgiven for all of the bad things if they did this, as well as money and honour. People wanted to take Jerusalem from the Muslims. They also thought that doing this would be a way to be spiritually better.

*"We had the choice of Jeffrey or Henry 1 – we choose Jeffrey because he looked the coolest. We used fishing net to make his chain mail. We spent 2 or 3 weeks layering to make the wound on his arm!"*

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# 2023, A Year in Cassington

## PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

With grateful thanks to our competition sponsor

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Cassington Ringers celebrate another (perfectish) Sunday morning ring

Thank you for all of your entries, there were some lovely shots and they will all help us to capture a snapshot of life in Cassington during 2023 - please keep them coming. The winners of our January competition – **Cassington Celebrates** – are the Cassington Ringers, who will have to decide how they share their £15 prize.

Please send in your entries for this month's competition – **Cassington at Work** – and maybe start thinking and snapping ahead for future topics.

**IT'S A ROLLOVER**  
We had no under 16 entries in January so we have decided to roll the prize over. The February under 16 prize is £30! so get snapping!

It's time to send in your entries for the **February** competition. This month's topic is ...

### Cassington AT WORK

Homework? Housework? Working from home? Running a business? Keeping the wheels of the village turning? It's all work ...

Entries by 15th February please, to [chinton260@outlook.com](mailto:chinton260@outlook.com) with your name, picture title or caption, and age category

### Future topics and submission windows

**Cassington GOES WILD**  
1st to 15th **MARCH**

**Cassington COMMUNITY**  
1st to 15th **APRIL**

**Cassington ROUND AND ABOUT**  
1st to 15th **MAY**

**Cassington CREATES**  
1st to 15th **JUNE**

**Cassington BIKE NIGHT**  
1st to 15th **JULY**

**Cassington CULTIVATES**  
1st to 15th **AUGUST**

**Cassington CARES**  
1st to 15th **SEPTEMBER**

**Cassington AT PLAY**  
1st to 15th **OCTOBER**

**Cassington CHARACTERS**  
1st to 15th **NOVEMBER**

**Cassington ST PETER'S CHURCH**  
Any time up to **15th November**

Pictures can be taken at any time, but please send them in the submission window for the topic you are entering. Pictures for the December competition, St Peter's Church, can be sent at any time before the 15th November.

Don't forget, there is a prize of a £15 gift voucher each month for both under and over 16 categories, courtesy of P Bruno Car Repairs

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# Update on the West Botley Utility-Scale Solar Power Station

by Alex Rogers, Cassington Parish Council

As most of you will be aware Photovoltaic Development Partners (PVDP) are proposing an 840 MW utility-scale solar power station over 1,400 ha of land (1,000 ha of solar panel arrays) in three areas west of Oxford. This includes most of the land between Cassington and Oxford and will be visible over almost all the fields to the north of our village. The planning proposal process will run according to the regulations in the Planning Act of 2008. There are 6 phases:

1. Pre-application (current phase; Spring 2023)
2. Acceptance of the scheme for full proposal
3. Pre-examination
4. Examination (2024)
5. Recommendation (early 2025)
6. Post decision

The Pre-application stage has two Phases. Phase 1, initial community consultation has already taken place. This comprised the circulation of the Phase One Community Consultation Leaflet and the village community information meetings. During this phase stakeholders were encouraged to submit their feedback on the proposal to PVDP by the 15th (later 22nd) of December. It is notable that many aspects of the planned solar power station were not available at this stage. A Phase 2 Community Consultation is planned for the Spring of 2023. This will be based on more detailed design proposals.

It is crucial that all households comment on the Phase 2 Consultation when it is announced. PVDP will be responsible for taking on the comments made by stakeholders (i.e. us) during both of these consultation phases. They have to produce a Statement of Community Consultation detailing meetings, promotional materials, and other ways in which developer has engaged with the community. The District Councils affected by the development, including WODC must respond to this document in 28 days.

District Councils will also prepare a Local Impact Report which is an important document for representing the views of local stakeholders on the proposed development and its actual/potential impacts on them. It is therefore important that you copy letters you send in response to the Phase 2 Consultation to the Parish Council and your District and County Councillors, Andy Goodwin and Dan Levy (andy.goodwin@westoxon.gov.uk ; dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk). Engagement with the planning process from all stakeholders is absolutely essential. Organisations and interested parties will have the opportunity through the planning process later in the year to register themselves as interested parties providing the opportunity to directly address the planning inspector.

I have been asked by residents whether the Parish Council will produce a standard letter of objection for Parishioners to sign. We will not do this because the inspector will simply treat all such letters as one objection. We recommend you read the documents include the Cassington Parish Council

responses to the consultations under Planning on the Parish Council website (see: <https://cassington-pc.gov.uk/planning/botley-west-solar-farm/> ). You can then use these as inspiration for your own responses to the scheme when the opportunity comes later this spring.

At present the affected District Councils are discussing coordination of responses to the Botley West Solar Power Station proposal. The Stop Botley West Action Group (<https://stopbotleywest.com/>), based in Bladon, is coordinating actions against the proposal from Parish Councils, local groups and concerned residents. They are looking for people with expertise and skills that can assist them in fighting this proposal. There is also a petition on Change.org which you can sign via this website under "Take Action".

Please visit this website to find out more information and give your support! I also ask for any residents of Cassington and Worton who wish to join a Parish Council sub-committee to fight the West Botley Solar Power Station proposal to contact me - arogers@cassington-pc.gov.uk or the Parish Council Clerk - cassingtonclerk@cassington-pc.gov.uk. Time is of the essence as we do not have much time to respond to the Phase 2 Consultation once the revised plans are published.

## **1852 – 1885 Christian Frederick Cole, Barrister**

Christian was the first African barrister to practise in the English courts. Originally from Sierra Leone, then a British colony, he was the first black graduate (1876) of the University of Oxford.



Christian was the grandson of a slave, and the adopted son of Reverend James Cole. He was educated in Freetown, Sierra Leone. He enrolled at Oxford as a non-collegiate student with the Delegacy of Unattached Students (now St.Catherine's College) in 1873, studying classics. His student contemporaries included the author Oscar Wilde.

Christian paid his way by teaching one of the qualifying exams for Oxford degrees and also music lessons. His classes were reportedly popular, indicated by the fact that when his uncle died and his financial situation worsened, fellow students and the then Master of University College raised money to help him. He graduated in 1876 and in November of that year was accepted as a member of University College, a position he held until April 1880. He courageously took a very visible role in the life of the college, including speaking at the Oxford Union.

In 1880 he returned to Sierra Leone, but did not find employment, so came back to England to train as a barrister. He joined the Inner Temple in 1883, thus becoming the first black African practising in English courts. He later went to Zanzibar to continue his career in law.

He died of smallpox in 1885, at the early age of 33. On 14 October 2017, a plaque honouring Christian Frederick Cole was unveiled on University College's exterior wall, in Logic Lane, opposite the college's law library.

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# SPORTS AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

## 2021-22 AGM

The Sports and Social Committee held a very belated AGM for the year April 2021 - March 2022 on 8th January 2023! The current committee members are: Mandy Constance (Chair), Amanda Fancourt, Suzi Lewis, Anne Luttmann-Johnson (Secretary), Graham Mills, Caroline Morton (Treasurer), Kate Rogers and Bridget Sherlock.

The Chairman gave her report. The key points are set out below. If anyone would like a copy of the full report please email the secretary at [anne.luttmannjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:anne.luttmannjohnson@gmail.com) The cricket and football teams played games during the year, and the MUGA was in use for training sessions, and for tennis in the summer months. The Pavilion is used regularly for band practice and by Slimming World. It has also seen a few parties for both adults and children.

The Treasurer gave her report. As a result of the Covid lockdowns we extended the MUGA membership for the families that were already members, and we welcome one new member family. Kath Humphris organised an application to the Blenheim Bursary Fund for a grant to buy and install a defibrillator on the front of the Pavilion. This was arranged through AED Donate, with the balance coming from the Sports and Social Funds.

As a charity we need at least £120 in donations in order to be able to claim the gift aid on small donations from bucket shaking etc on Bike Night. This is a valuable source of income

for us, so if anyone wants to make a donation to Sports and Social, and they can gift aid it, then please contact the Treasurer at [caz.morton@gmail.com](mailto:caz.morton@gmail.com) We currently have one person in the village who has set up a standing order to us, for which we are most grateful. The Treasurer wanted to record her thanks to Lorna Mills for her help in claiming the Gift Aid. To view the Treasurer's statement and the financial report and accounts please see the Sports and Social page on the village website or email the Treasurer as above.

We ran two events during the year 2021-22. In September 2021 we held a Picnic and Sports day on the Playing Fields. On 5 November 2021 we sold burgers, hot dogs and chips at the Red Lion firework evening. Both those events raised much needed funds for the charity. However this year we are going to have to redouble our fundraising efforts, as the mower urgently needs replacing. We have been setting aside funds for replacement of the mower and resurfacing of the MUGA. Our fund for the mower stands at £5,600. However a new mower is going to cost us about £12,000!

We are hoping to run a Bake Off competition plus tea party (where we shall eat the various cakes!), over the Coronation weekend. We also discussed a comedy evening and maybe a wine tasting evening. If anyone has any thoughts or suggestions for events please contact one of the committee.

We are very fortunate in that a number of people donate their time, particularly for mowing the playing fields and also erecting and removing the tennis nets according to the season. The Committee recorded grateful thanks to all those people who have helped, especially Graham Mills.

Finally if anyone would like to join the committee, or help out with maintaining the facilities, and/or mowing the playing fields, please do get in touch with anyone on the committee or email [cassingtonsport@millsclan.force9.co.uk](mailto:cassingtonsport@millsclan.force9.co.uk)



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### 1533-1603 Queen Elizabeth I

Elizabeth I sealed the course of history by enforcing that England would be Protestant and not Roman Catholic. She met with Professor Thomas Neal and others who tried to dissuade her. Thomas has a brass epitaph in St Peter's Church.



Elizabeth visited Oxford twice enjoying debates and plays in Christchurch College.

Her 'progression' travels across Oxfordshire were like holidays for her, away from struggles with Parliament in London. She went to Kenilworth and Warwick. Elizabeth would take roads near Cafsteton and Anefham (Cassington and Eynsham). She is very famous for defeating the Spanish who came in ships (the Armada) and were met by Sir Francis Drake's navy who defeated them.

Many pictures glorify her power as a military and religious leader by showing her in sumptuous robes, lace ruffs and pearls. Her costumes helped to make her image iconic, so that nobody would doubt her strength as a monarch.

*" We looked at photos. We added lace and pearls to her dress to make her look grand. It was amazing."*

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

### Neighbourhood Plan

At the beginning of December, the External Examiner came back to the Parish Council and WODC with questions. These have now been answered and sent back.

### Horsemere Lane and Cassington Lights

The Parish Council has received queries with regards to Horsemere Lane due to the A40 works being suspended. The works on the section of the A40 are merely delayed and are likely to still go ahead as planned, including the closure of Horsemere Lane. We see no point in reopening the discussions on this matter at the current time. Should we receive an indication that these works will not take place (unlikely) then we will certainly reopen the matter.

### 20mph zone

OCC made the decision to approve Cassington for the 20mph zone. However as yet the clerk has received no further information. She has chased this with Cllr Levy.

### Speed watch

This has been going very well with plenty of people being caught by the Speed Watch Group with letters going out and a few with visits from the Local Police

### Dog Waste

A new general/dog waste bin is going to be installed at the bottom on the track by Williams Court. Unfortunately, WODC no longer have or use the small red dog waste bins, so the Parish Council are looking into other ways we can have a bin placed in Little Lane.

### Botley West Solar Farm

Please see the article on p9 and <https://cassington-pc.gov.uk/planning/botley-west-solar-farm/>

### Fix My Street

If you see anything that you think needs reporting, please report it to the following address <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

### Kings Coronation

The Parish Council are asking for volunteers to set up a Working Group with regards to the village celebrating the Kings Coronation. If you would like to help, please contact the clerk on the email below.

### Council Tax Increase

Please note that this is for Band D only. The clerk is only advised of Band D properties. The precept will rise from £69.32 to £80.94 which is an increase of £11.62 per month or £2.69 per week. The reason for the increase is due to services that the Parish Council pay for have also increased.

### Parish Councillors

If you wish to contact the Parish Council, please email them on: -

Barbara King – [bking1@cassington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:bking1@cassington-pc.gov.uk)

Chris Metcalf – [cmetcalf@cassington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cmetcalf@cassington-pc.gov.uk)

Alex Rogers – [arogers@cassington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:arogers@cassington-pc.gov.uk)

Graham Mills – [gmills@cassington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:gmills@cassington-pc.gov.uk)

Stewart Thompson – [sthompson@cassington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:sthompson@cassington-pc.gov.uk)

Next Parish Council Meeting will be on 2nd February 2023 @ 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Clerk contact details: Mrs Tracey Cameron -  
Email: [cassingtonclerk@cassington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cassingtonclerk@cassington-pc.gov.uk)

### Parish Council Meetings for 2023

2nd February 2023

2nd March 2023

6th April 2023

4th May 2023 – Please note that it will take place in St Peters School

1st June 2023 – Annual Parish Meeting followed by The Parish Council Meeting (planning & finance only)

6th July 2023

There are no Parish Council Meetings for August

7th September 2023

5th October 2023

2nd November 2023

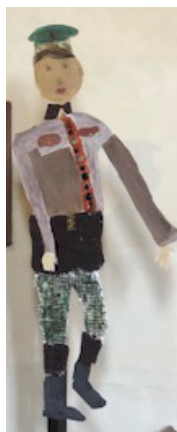
7th December 2023

## 1914-18 World War I soldier

Twelve men from Cassington gave their lives in World War One. This figure is based on a photograph of soldiers at that time. In the Second World War, 1939-1945, there were also Cassington men and women who served. Three of them died in this conflict.

All the names of soldiers who died in both World Wars are remembered on a Church memorial plaque. There is a remembrance ceremony on Armistice Sunday every year at the War Memorial on Little Green in Cassington.

Men in Cassington usually joined the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. This was a regiment of the



British Army that existed from 1881 until 1958, serving in the Second Boer War, World War One and World War Two.

The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum in Woodstock opened in 2014 and tells the stories of local people who served in wars throughout history, and the lives of families on the 'Home front' in villages like Cassington. There is a big focus on the First World War with a reconstruction of a dug-out; as well as many stories and explanations of the Second World War.

In the 2000s, children and young people in Cassington performed the play 'We Will Remember Them' by Mandy Constance, which told a fictionalised story based on real events involving Cassington in the Second World War.

*" He marched through Cassington on his way to war. I like learning about history. I loved seeing all of the artwork in the church. Wow the church is old."*



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### 1300 - 1400s Margery Kempe,

a remarkable religious writer of the middle ages, whose reputation has been revived in Oxford

In Medieval times, there were some very impressive female scholars who contributed to the development of English literature, but they have never come to prominence. Many of these accomplished women were nuns, but not all....



Margery Kempe was a mystic who wrote the first autobiography in the English language, even though she probably had no formal education and as an adult learned texts by having them read to her by a priest. She dictated her experiences of religious visions, pilgrimages, recipes, motherhood and domestic life in The Book of Margery Kempe.

She preached without permission by the Church and was regarded as a nuisance when she wailed in response to her visions and screamed when the authorities tried to stop her.

She was tried for heresy several times, but never convicted. She was proud of her ability to argue against the accusations made against her. After her death she was largely forgotten about for several centuries.

In 2018, Laura Varnom from Oxford University and Laura Kalas from Swansea University started The Margery Kempe Society. This provides a platform for academic study and a blog for exploring the literature, medicine, science and history of the middle ages. The Society is promoting awareness of medieval women's literary culture.

*"I felt excited for the singing in the service. It made me go into deep thoughts about myself. I thought the art was great, really inspiring and creative. The fact of the church is 900 years old makes me think the change isn't that often and it's nothing to worry about because this church has left through all of this change throughout the years."*

*"In front of our church of St Peter's - crowded shoulder to shoulder that day - the choir children of our school stood up, confident and cheerful, and sang to us most beautifully. I hope they will come again. Their singing was one of the many gifts of these remarkable celebrations. Thank you to you all. Music is the gift of a lifetime too. Learning to sing in a choir at school proves a gift that lasts into old age for people who may have lost the power of ordinary talk. The music brings its words back as well, as I have discovered with school friends, like me, in their late eighties. How many cheering gifts these remarkable celebrations have brought us to delight and inspire. Many, many thank yous."*  
*Margaret Bonfigliani*

## Recipe of the Month

A recent study by Oxford University calculated that following a vegetarian or vegan diet reduced costs by a third. It's also much healthier and more sustainable for the planet. Winter is also a time for enjoying familiar comfort food.

If you are interested in eating a more wholesome, plant based diet, GreenTEA is setting up a group to share tips and recipes. Visit us at the newly named eco café The Cherry Tree in Eynsham on Saturday 11th February between 3 and 5pm or contact by email [helenasamthar@gmail.com](mailto:helenasamthar@gmail.com) If you are new to vegetarian food try substituting half meat for lentils in your normal recipe.

### Vegetarian Shepherd's Pie for 4 people

- |                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ½ tsp olive or rapeseed oil | ½ tsp paprika            |
| 1½ large chopped onions     | 1 tbs tahini             |
| 4 cloves garlic             | ½ tbs soy sauce          |
| ½ tsp thyme                 | ½ tbs balsamic vinegar   |
| ½ tsp rosemary              | Salt and pepper to taste |
| 1½ tbs tomato paste         | 2 large potatoes         |
| 1 bay leaf                  | 2 medium sized parsnips  |
| 450ml vegetable stock       | 1 tbs butter             |
| 60ml red wine optional      |                          |

#### Instructions

Fry the onions until browned – about 10 minutes. Add the garlic, herbs and tomato paste. Fry for a further 2 minutes. Add the lentils, stock, bay leaf & paprika. Cover and simmer for 30 minutes. Stir in the tahini, soy and balsamic vinegar. Add salt & pepper.

Meanwhile peel and cut up the potatoes and parsnips and boil for 20 minutes. Drain and mash both with the butter. Heat oven to 375 F. Cover lentil mixture with mash and top with grated parmesan (optional). Bake for 15 minutes.

*"The service was really interesting, and I enjoyed singing and everyone was smiling and clapping afterwards - it was a lot of fun. I feel 'wow' the church is 900 years old. It is amazing that people have enjoyed it for 900 years. The lunch was scrumptious"*

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# CHURCHFIELDS NEWS

It's hard to believe we're already into the second month of the year and as it's the shortest month no doubt it'll be March before we know it.

We are delighted to welcome our new home manager Chris Stimpson who has joined our team in December. Chris has over 14 years of care experience under his belt. His passion for providing quality and personalised care will ensure that we continue to provide excellent care to all our residents. We are looking forward to seeing what he has in store for Churchfields Care Home.



We had a fabulous festive season at Churchfields. In fact, we spent all of December getting into the festive spirit. Our naughty elf was spotted several times around the home, turning up in the funniest of spots. In the weeks leading up to Christmas, we made delicious Christmas cookies and decorated our beautiful Christmas tree all

while singing our favourite Christmas songs.

Our Christmas party this year was a smashing hit, all thanks to Jeff Denton and our amazing staff! We enjoyed a scrumptious homemade Chinese feast, followed by great entertainment throughout the evening.



We would like to thank St Peter's school for inviting us to watch their nativity play. It was a great performance and our residents thoroughly enjoyed it.



The cold spell didn't stop us from attending our weekly quizzes at the local pub. We were greeted with mince pies, joined by our friends and enjoyed a couple of drinks.

Our door is always open for a cup of tea and a chat, whether you'd like to work at our care home, or you think we might be a lovely new home for you or a loved one, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You can call us on 01865 638398, or drop us an email to [manager@churchfieldscarehome.co.uk](mailto:manager@churchfieldscarehome.co.uk)



In the meantime, please keep following us on Facebook to see how daily life continues with our home.

## Time to get walking again!

With Spring on its way we start to think about 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 loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. 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!

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## 1318 Lady Elizabeth de Montfort

Elizabeth is believed to have had a house in or near Cassington. She added St Peter's Church's west and east windows, spire and mediaeval wall paintings about doom, in other words, the end of the world.

Elizabeth came from a wealthy family and her marriage was arranged by Queen Eleanor of Castile who was married to King Edward I. After her husband, William Montagu, died, she became a rich benefactor, meaning that she donated land and money for good causes.

She donated the land we now know as Christ Church Meadow, which is a patch of open countryside next to Christ Church Cathedral and the Thames in the centre of Oxford. Thousands of visitors walk through the Meadow every year. Cows graze on this land!

Her tomb can be visited at Christ Church. She had 4 sons and 7 daughters whose figures were carved all around her tomb, but were later damaged during the Reformation when many Roman Catholic statues were destroyed by Protestants.

*"I liked making the collage. They are all really good. It was fun. We had to write facts about the characters. Elizabeth had 12 children. She was a good lady who donated a lot of her money to good causes."*



## Bell Ringing

Church bells will usually be rung between 9.00 and 9.30am before the services each Sunday, and each Thursday between 7.00 and 8.00pm for our weekly practice.

As members of the Witney and Woodstock Guild of Church Bellringers we are occasionally asked to hold a practice session for all teams in the area. The first one for some while will take place here on Saturday 11th February between 10.30 am and 12 noon.

## 1600 - 1649 King Charles I

Charles I was the king during the English Civil War. He used Oxford as the base for his court where many people were loyal to him. He likely marched through Cassington and Eynsham with his army as he controlled the Midlands, Wales, the West Country and the North of England, whilst his enemies, the Parliamentarians, controlled London, the South East and East Anglia.



Charles escaped from Oxford disguised as a servant when the Parliamentarians, led by Oliver Cromwell closed in on him. He retreated to Newcastle and put himself in the hands of the Scottish Presbyterian Army. The Scots did a deal with the English Parliament and swapped him for £100,000 and the promise of more money. He was held in Hurst Castle and then Windsor Castle.

He had his head chopped off in 1649 by order of the English Parliament, when he was found guilty of treason for using his power for his own good, rather than the people. At the time of his execution he had very long hair and beard because his royal barber had been dismissed by parliament and he refused to let anyone else near him with a razor!

Around the same time, James Keane of Bedford and his son Richard made 4 bells for St Peters Church. One was made in a foundry in Woodstock. Today there are 6 bells.

*"I enjoyed singing in the service and it made me feel like a big balloon! The fact that the church is 900 years old makes me feel very small"*

## Chimney Sweep

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# TEA TIME TEASER

This month as we celebrate the 900th anniversary of St Peter's Church we have sayings and expressions loosely themed around religious and moral concepts. Can you work them out?

Answers next month

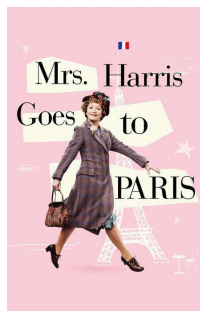
1. C I next T G
2. A H all Y W E H
3. N rest F T W
4. A D F for T G
5. T D take T H
6. A N F W T bell T
7. On A W A A P
8. P C before A F

Answers to last month's anagrams:

1. Daisy the Cow – Jack and the Beanstalk
2. Tiger Lily – Peter Pan
3. The Ugly Sisters - Cinderella
4. Man Friday - Robinson Crusoe
5. Captain Hook – Peter Pan
6. Wishee Washee - Aladdin
7. Prince Charming - Cinderella
8. Baron Hardup - Cinderella

## FILM

The next film will be "Mrs Harris goes to Paris" on 10th February 7:30pm. In partnership with the House of Dior, "Mrs. Harris Goes To Paris" tells the story of a widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London who falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress and decides that she must have one of her own. After she works, starves, and gambles to raise the funds to pursue her dream, she embarks on an adventure to Paris which will change not only her own outlook, but the very future of the House of Dior.



# OBSERVATION

by Stephen Wright

It was a pleasure to be back in Cassington for the village pantomime in December. Mandy and the crew put on a great, funny show for everyone to enjoy and I felt very proud to see my mum singing, my dad playing guitar and my brother taking his shirt off.

However, there was one downside. During the play we in the audience were encouraged to throw fluffy snowballs on stage. Naturally one got stuck in my beard without me noticing or anyone pointing it out until I went to Lorna Mills' bar for a half time beverage. There was another woman who I didn't recognise but she was looking at me in a way that I assumed suggested she knew who I was. How couldn't she be aware of such a notable author, after all? In fact, she was looking at me because she wanted to point out the snowball hanging off of my chin.

That's the difference between the actors, who try to make people laugh, and yours truly, who accidentally becomes the butt of the joke.

.....  
 : "Thanks to everyone involved in creating and organising  
 : the art unveiling at the church last Saturday. Always  
 : lovely to see the village kids art creations. And it was a  
 : great opportunity to see friends that we haven't seen  
 : for a few years and witness the brilliant village army of  
 : volunteers who managed to set the hall up with flowers,  
 : food and drinks and make and serve such a lovely meal  
 : to so many people in the village hall. Every time an  
 : event like this happens I'm reminded how lucky we are  
 : to live in such a brilliant village.  
 : Thank you Cassington!"  
 : .....

## 1853 - 1900 Victorian school mistress of St Peter's Church of England School.

The development of children's education, which took place in the second half of the 19th century, led to a growth in the number of school teachers and created career opportunities for both men and women. It's likely that St Peter's School would have employed a school mistress like this one.

This is how education in Cassington grew.....

In 1724 Henry Allnut, a London lawyer, and friend of the Duke of Marlborough, who had owned one of the manors at Cassington left money from his estate to teach, clothe and apprentice boys from five parishes including Cassington. Allnut's charity maintained a small school for boys at Cassington throughout the 18th century.

By 1831 the vicar of St Peter's had established St Peter's day school for all the children of the village that incorporated Allnut's charity, and in 1853 the building of a new schoolhouse beside Cassington Green was funded jointly by the parish, Christ Church and the Allnut charity.

In 1870 there was a law that required schooling to be



made available to all children aged 5-13 years and subsequent laws making it compulsory for parents to educate their children and for children to attend school. The school was enlarged in 1876. In 1926 it was reorganised as a junior school, with older children going to Gosford Hill School. Later, older children went to Bartholomew School in Eynsham.

In 1973 the school moved to new buildings with a large open space, adjacent to the old school which is now a private house. Since then there have been several extensions and additions to the school building, including an outdoor pool built and run by parents.

Since the 2000s the school has seen the arrival of the purpose-built foundation unit for nursery children, more developments in outdoor education and play facilities. It is part of the Eynsham Partnership Academy Trust which was the first academy to combine Church of England Schools and Community Schools.

# Village Notices

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## Gardening Tips for January



- Prepare vegetable seed beds, and sow some vegetables under cover
- Chit potato tubers
- Net fruit and vegetable crops to keep the birds off.
- Protect blossom on apricots, nectarines and peaches
- Prune wisteria and bougainvillea

### BABYSITTING

Do you need a (Cassington) babysitter with good references?  
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Let me help you to enjoy your garden.

07775713269

Piers.lewis.pl@gmail.com

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.

# what's on?

Dates for your diary

## February 2023

Thurs 2nd 10am	Cassington Cafe
Thurs 2nd 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Fri 10th 7.30pm	Film "Mrs Harris goes to Paris"
Wed 15th	Photography competition deadline
Mon 20th	March CAWN deadline
Tues 28th 7.15pm	Village Hall AGM

## March 2023

Thurs 2nd 10am	Cassington Cafe
Thurs 2nd 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Wed 15th	Photography competition deadline
Mon 20th	April 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

### GARDENING

*Do you need help with gardening?  
I am available weekends and  
school holidays.  
For more details call Henry on  
07496 606993*

Do you have children or pets?

I live in Cassington and I'm available for babysitting or petsitting. I am 16, studying childcare and education at college, have a paediatric first aid certificate and can show references if required.

Please text/call Seren on 07740 184757 or email on lemaireseren@gmail.com

### 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.