

THE HARWELL NEWS

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Harwell Parish Council

At the February meeting it was reported that OCC highways staff had visited Harwell on 29th January to consider traffic-calming measures for the High Street. The £30k allocated to Harwell could possibly provide a Pedestrian-controlled crossing.

The Council agreed to a request from the Feast Committee for use of the Recreation Ground on 3rd June, subject to the usual terms and conditions. The Clerk reported that the British Legion's insurers had still not responded to telephone calls regarding the damage caused by the British Legion's Aunt Sally hut, in late 2000. It was also reported that the school computer suite is available after 6pm by prior arrangement with the school.

At the March meeting, a lot of time was taken up discussing the new Code of Conduct for Councillors that the Government has introduced by Statutory Instrument, i.e. without approval by Parliament. Mr David Quayle, from the Vale WHDC, explained that it would automatically come into force on 5th May even if the Council didn't adopt it.

Among the opinions expressed by Councillors was that an acceptance of office form was signed after the last election and the current term has a year to run. There seems no good reason not to bring this in at the next election. Also it was stated that it is hard enough to get people to stand for the Parish Council. This new Code of Conduct would discourage people further. At the last 3 'elections' there hasn't been an election in Harwell, and more than once people have had to be co-opted.

The main argument was that the code of conduct is totally out of proportion to the influence that Parish Councillors have. For example in the Register of Interests one is required to give details of membership of 'Any body whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy'.

The Parish Council voted by 6 to 3 with 1 abstention to NOT adopt the Code of Conduct. Since the Model Code of Conduct will automatically apply where it is not adopted, Councillors will have 28 days from 5th May to sign the declarations or no longer be Parish Councillors. If the number who sign were to be less than that required for a quorum then the Vale of White Horse District Council would have to 'parachute in' District Councillors to run the Parish.

The Council discussed its response to the Government's Planning Green Paper. Mrs

Margaret Turner and Martin Ricketts had written comments and Mr Ricketts agreed to collate them.

The Council was sad to hear of the death of Ken King, who had been caretaker for the Pavilion for many years. It was reported that Mr Joe Blissett had agreed to take on the post and the Council agreed to the proposal put by a Councillor.

There was discussion of the work that had been done in the area adjacent to the allotments where the Council has agreed to a BMX track for young people. The work has been done without the Council's permission. The Council asked the Clerk to write to the person responsible, and also to invite the Vale WHDC's Recreation Officer to inspect the site.

Also on matters relating to Council Lands, the Council agreed fencing work at the allotments and the BMX area, provided some grant funding is available.

The Council agreed to order a bus shelter to be sited on the south side of the A417 just to the west of the Rowstock roundabout. It also agreed to make a donation of £100 to the Fun Club for safety improvements to the Village Hall.

Parish Council Meetings are normally on the 2nd Monday of the month, the next being on 8th April and 13th May. The Clerk, Mrs E. Hollister, can be contacted on 820006. Any items for the agenda should be with the Clerk a week before the meeting.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

16th May 2002

7.30pm in the Village Hall

At the meeting there will be a report on the last year's activities and a short update on progress so far with the Parish Plan from a member of the committee, following on from the village meeting in September. The Parish Plan is your chance to express your views on the future of your village.

Harwell News Publication Date

The deadline for the next issue is 1st June. It will appear about 10th June, to include items from the Harwell Feast.

'Affordable' Housing

We have been advised by a local Housing Association that there may be potential for a small development in the parish of affordable housing to rent to local people. To register an interest initially please contact Mr Ian Mead or Larrie Upchurch of the Vale of White Horse District Council on telephone number 01235 540263

Planning Matters

Notice of Permission:

HAR/1658/1 Extension to provide dual family/granny annexe at Winnaway Farm

Notice of Refusal:

HAR/4449/23 Temporary office accommodation at 1 Cherry Barn in portakabin.

HAR/17102/2 Erection of house at Upper West Field, Reading Road

HAR/10365/8-LB Rear conservatory at Church Farmhouse, Church Lane, as inappropriate materials would harm character of listed building.

Applications:

HAR/17315-X Residential development at 12 The Croft.

Letters:

The Council has received a letter and plans regarding the erection of 11 low-cost homes on land adjoining Orchard Way. The Council agreed to discuss the matter with VWHDC.

Reservoir Proposal Meeting

A meeting to discuss Thames Water's proposal for a reservoir is to be held in April. The meeting is of the South East Area Forum, organised by the Vale of White Horse District Council, with District, County and Parish Councillors in attendance. The Forum has invited Thames Water representatives to attend so that the proposal for a reservoir west of Drayton can be discussed. Members of the public are invited to attend the meeting which will be held in Steventon Village Hall on Tuesday 30th April at 7.30pm. There will be an opportunity for the public to make statements, but the time available for this is likely to be limited.



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Vacancy at Little Pippins Pre-School

We have a vacancy for a flexible, friendly person to work as a part time play assistant in our thriving pre-school. This term we have continued to provide a stimulating and varied programme of play and we are looking for someone to join the team which makes it all happen. Highlights have included a visit from the local Fire Service not to mention our annual Easter Bonnet Parade. Little Pippins has an idyllic setting in the Freeman Orchard on Gaveston Road and if you are experienced in working with children, or willing to train, this could provide the perfect working environment for you. Please get in touch with Lorraine Moore on 01235 832713 to find out more about this new opportunity. It would especially suit a local parent who needs to fit working around school hours.

Harwell School Summer Playscheme

After much consideration the Playscheme Committee feels unable to run Playscheme safely this year due to the extensive building works being carried out at the school over the summer.

But don't worry - we'll be back in 2003 with an extra super Playscheme to which we will invite back all the current Year 6s.

Janice Markey

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HARWELL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Our new committee has had a very busy first three months of the year. We were very well supported for our excellent Desserts Evening on February 7th and several people seemed to be dieting hard the following week. Thank you to all the parents and staff who provided the superb range of desserts we tasted, and to Andrew Chapman of Andrew Chapman Fine Wines for talking about the different dessert wines we tried with them.

Thank you also to all the sponsors of our Fabulous Food Tombola, brilliantly organised by Claire Storey. They are: Bob's Family Butchers, Brewsters, Coffee Aroma in Didcot, The Coop Supermarket, The Crispin, The George and Dragon, The Hare, Hendred Fish Farm, The Kingswell Hotel, The Ladygrove Fish Bar, The Ladygrove Pub, McDonalds at Milton, Mount Pleasant Farm Dairy, The Park Club at Milton, Pryors Taxis, Q Gardens, The Ridgeway Café, Tim Roberts Consulting, Sainsbury's Supermarket, Smarts Fish and Chip Shop, The Sunkoshi Restaurant, Tesco Supermarket, The Wallingford Arms, Waitrose Supermarket, White Horse Newsagent, Wyevale Garden Centre, not to mention many of the parents and staff of the School. We were overwhelmed by local generosity and delighted to raise over £400.

Our Sponsored Spell and Valentine's Disco also went well and our Quiz and Film Night was brilliant. Graham Beith and Claire Storey cooked up some very tasty chilis; (thank you to Mike Pepper for peeling and chopping 20lbs of onions); Karen and David Muir thought up some excellent questions and Rob Done made a fine quiz master. Another financial success, this raised over £350 for our funds.

We have several more events coming up for your diaries:

Thursday 25th April - Golf Tournament at Drayton. We have been very generously sponsored by UKAEA so we have some excellent prizes on offer at this event. If you would like to enter a team, please contact Annie Hancock on 818941.

Saturday 27th April - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Giant Car Wash, Coffee and Cakes and Book-stall

Come along to get your car cleaned by the local Fire Brigade, browse through the books and enjoy a coffee and cake. In association with Oxfordshire Fire Service.

Wednesday 29th May - Sponsored Walk

Monday June 3rd - Harwell Feast

The School Governors will be running the Pig Roast and looking for as many parents and school supporters as possible to sign up for half an hour's helping on the rota. Please contact Lynn Wilkinson on 835536 to offer your services.

continued →

Friday 21st June - Family Rounders with bar and barbecue

Saturday 13th July - Grand Summer Fair

For further details of any of these events, please contact Fiona Tankard on 01235 861593.

Winterbrook Youth Club

The club continues to meet every Monday Night in the Freeman Hall during term time with the young people enjoying all the usual activities. Although it feels like a long time ago now, the Fireworks night was a particularly successful evening, and the Youth Club would like to thank UKAEA for their sponsorship of this event,

Janice Markey has decided to step down as Youth Club Leader due to other commitments and Martin Connolly has stepped into her shoes (not literally, of course!) The Youth Club Committee would like to express their thanks to Janice for all the work she has done as leader over the last 13 years. She gave freely of her time and energy and she will be greatly missed. If anyone would like to help Martin with the running of the club they would be most welcome. Drop in any Monday evening and see what we get up to!

Some dates for your diary:

Saturday 18th May Jumble Sale 2pm Freeman Hall

Saturday 14th Sept. Freeman Hall 30th Anniversary Event - details to be finalised; all past and present members will be very welcome.

Celia Lockwood Tel. 221173.

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Rubbish Dumping in Cow Lane

Due to continued reports of this, parishioners are asked to be vigilant when in Townsend or Cow Lane, and record and pass on details of any vehicles suspected of being used for dumping rubbish.

What Future for Harwell?

The Harwell Parish Plan Steering Group members and the Working Parties have been busy bees on behalf of **all the residents of Harwell** since our last report in The Harwell News and all is going well. But now we turn to you

The Harwell Parish Plan is all about what we, the dwellers in Harwell, want here in this pretty village over the next 10 years and beyond.

What are **your** concerns, **your** visions, **your** aspirations and **your** dreams for the future of Harwell – it is essential **we prepare to plan the village together** for our children and grandchildren and every one else who will live and work here!

Bill Jackson and the Working Parties are about to beaver away on a questionnaire which will be delivered by hand to every household in the Parish, with answers sought from young people up to the eldest member of the community, but before they proceed any further **do let us have your thoughts on the questions and topics you feel should be incorporated.**

As a reminder the 5 working parties cover all aspects of the Village from its history, the people, the facilities and activities, the environment and transport. Indeed everything!!

Whether you're content with Harwell as it is at present or not, don't hesitate to telephone Bill Jackson on 835698, or fax 862897 or e-mail on wfjclin@aol.com with the questions you feel should be included in the questionnaire. If we, who reside here, do not pave the way forward for Harwell, others will!! And then, it will be too late for us to have our say!!

So what else is happening?

In order to maximise the aims and aspirations of us all, every one of all ages is requested to participate, and we ask you to assist with the following – **and please mark these dates in your diary NOW** –

Wednesday, 1st May – a Road Traffic Survey will take place in Harwell by ourselves from 6.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. - **volunteers are required please** to cover 1 hourly stints. There will always be at least two volunteers on duty at each survey point with a car available too! Please contact Mrs Margaret Turner on 821248.

Thursday, 16th May – everyone is invited to attend the **Annual Parish Meeting** in the Village Hall where part of the agenda will be an update on the Harwell Parish Plan. Please pass the message round and bring your friends and neighbours along to hear about the latest plans for Harwell.

Distribution of Questionnaires around the end of May – **volunteers are required please** – all volunteers will be responsible for the delivery of these questionnaires to approximately 20 houses only, and also for **the collection of the Questionnaires before the end of June.** Again please contact Mrs Margaret Turner on 821248.

Bank Holiday Monday, 3rd June – Harwell Feast. A stall for the Harwell Parish Plan will be manned throughout the day. **More help is required here** and if you would like to assist for an hour or so, please telephone Mrs Jane Woolley on 221030.

The voice of all of us

The Parish Plan must convey the voice of all of us – every one of us in the Parish! Therefore your contribution and cooperation is vital to its success – and I'm sure you would like to assist by sending us comment on those questions or topics which you feel must not be omitted from the questionnaire. Or you may prefer to participate in the traffic survey; with the distribution and collection of the questionnaires to only 20 houses or so; or chat with other residents at the Harwell Feast stall to learn more of their concerns and aspirations. **Don't hesitate – please make that telephone call now.**

Reg Waite, Hon Secretary, Harwell Parish Plan Steering Group and Working Parties

tel: 861779 e-mail: harwellpp@aol.com

Harwell Gardeners Club

The next meetings are on Monday 8th April, when Malcolm Brownfoord will talk on *Wild Orchids and Butterflies in Oxfordshire*, and 13th May, when Louise Allen will talk about *The Pulling Power of Plants*. Meetings are in the Village Hall at 7.30pm Visitors always welcome. On 3rd June there will be a visit to Longstock Park.

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FUN CLUB NEWS

We meet in the Village Hall on Tuesday mornings in term time between 9.30 and 11.30. All parents and carers of babies and toddlers, as well as mums-to-be, are welcome. Each week we provide a variety of toys and puzzles, an activity table, juice and biscuits for the children and tea and coffee for the adults - all for only £1 per family (first visit free).

Thanks to all those who came and spring-cleaned the toys in Feb half term.

Forthcoming events:

Tues 30 April, 28 May, and 25 June - The **Health Visitor**, Pam Norton, is available for consultations and weighings-in. (she comes on the last Tuesday of each month unless this falls outside term time). Consultations take place in private in a side room. Book your slot on the day. There is no need to attend Fun Club or pay the £1 Fun Club entry fee if you only want to see the Health Visitor.

Tues 14 May - **Photographer** attending - have your/your child's photo professionally taken with no obligation to buy unless you like it.

To join Fun Club, or for further information, or to join the Committee (more volunteers always welcome) contact **Jane Woolley** on Tel 221030. In particular we will be looking for a new **treasurer** after the summer.

Chiropodist - Podiatrist

M.S.S.Ch. M.B.Ch.A.

For a home visit please contact

Mrs HAZEL MOODEY

48, Hanney Road, STEVENTON

telephone 01235 834093

Alpha Course in Harwell

Are you around during the day; would you like to join a daytime Alpha course? Harwell church is planning to run another Alpha in the early afternoon each Wednesday from 17th April for 10 weeks. The sessions offer you free of charge an opportunity to explore the Christian faith through videos and discussion in a friendly and informal atmosphere. We will operate a crèche in an adjacent room for anyone with pre-school children. Please join us for a taster afternoon to find out more about Alpha at no obligation on 10th April from 12.45-2.40 p.m. A light lunch will be provided.

For further information please contact Vicky MacArthur (851479), Liz Roberts (834295) or Nancy Preston (835752).

Having a Baby in Harwell

Are you pregnant or have you recently had a new baby? Have you just moved to the area and have a young child or children? If so, please read on! We are a group of young(ish) mothers in Harwell who have benefited from the informal support available in our village for new mothers and would like to open this support up to all local women. The Health Visitors are going to be giving out our leaflet to all new mums but just in case one doesn't reach you:

Cooking Soon after your baby's birth, you may find it difficult to eat well and provide a main meal for yourself and your family. We have a group of volunteers who provide cooked meals after the new arrival, whether this is your first baby or not. Please contact Nancy Preston on 835752. We are also looking for more volunteers to provide some of these meals for new mums. If you would like to do so, please contact Nancy.

Breastfeeding Friends Is breast-feeding more difficult than you expected? Do you ever feel you are the only one struggling to feed and look after your baby? Are sleepless nights getting to you? We would like to offer you support - it may be you would just like to have a chat to someone about any of the worries you have. Please contact Fiona Tankard on 861593 or Jane Woolley on 221030 to be put in touch with a breastfeeding friend. If you are interested in becoming a breastfeeding friend, please also speak to Fiona.

New Mums Groups There are several new mums groups meeting locally. The groups are ideal places to build up friendships, both for mothers and for children. We meet in one another's homes once a month in the evening and also sometimes during the day. Evening meetings make it possible for working mothers to be involved. Topics for discussion have included sleeping, weaning, problems with babies, difficult toddlers etc. We have also run positive parenting and assertiveness course within the groups. Please contact Sarah Fishburn on 820921 for further details.

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01235 521039 for more details.

Mobile Library

The mobile Library will be outside Harwell Village Hall between 2.40pm and 3.10pm on alternate Wednesdays. The coming dates are 10th and 24th April and 8th and 22nd May.



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PARISH PERSONALITIES



The photograph shows Lance, Danyelle, Lesley and Bob

Extra value this month, the Parish Personality is the whole of the crew at Bob the Butchers – Harwell's Post Office and food shop. The photograph shows the proprietors Bob and Danyelle Paton, with Bob's sister Lesley and the Chief of Staff, Lance Walton, a cheerful Geordie, who is often thought to be Bob the butcher.

Bob and Danyelle took over the shop in 1995, having previously operated the butcher's shop in Ardington. Lesley, who lives in Milton Heights with her husband and three children aged 13, 9 and 4, had, like Lance, been with the Patons in that venture as well. They are very pleased that some of their customers from Ardington still shop with them. At the time of the takeover the Post Office was next door but they took it back in 1996.

Bob concentrates on the butcher side of the business and stocks only the best quality meats. The beef is Aberdeen Angus, The pork comes from Norfolk, the lamb from Devon and the poultry from Thame. They are members of the Meat Traders Federation which sets standards of quality, skill and hygiene on the premises. Only good quality ingredients are used in their made up foods; sausages, burgers and pies. Recently Bob has started baking his own bread and rolls, these have proved popular. There are now prepared baguettes and sandwiches on sale as well. Although primarily a butchers they stock a range of useful items, some fruit and vegetables, household items, tins and some dairy products. For these they cannot compete with the supermarkets for pricing. This is true of all small shops in the country. I remember Brian at the garage telling me he stopped selling petrol when his wholesale price was 2p a litre more than Tesco were charging at the pumps.

Danyelle and Bob have two daughters; Lauren, now six at Harwell Primary School and Ally two and a half who attends the Pippins. The family like Harwell as a village. They do make the point strongly that Consignia, which

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runs the Post Offices is losing money and always looking for ways to save, including closures of offices. They want the Post Office to be used as much as possible to ensure it stays open. I asked why they do not do Road Fund Licences. The answer is that the DVLA tries to restrict the number of places at which the very valuable discs are held and, since by definition it is only car owners who need them then central offices like Didcot are used.

Bob does not expect us to do our main shopping with him, but he does feel he is competitive for quality meat and poultry and prepared products I have done some research and can agree with him on that especially his pork and apple burgers. His bread and bread products are as fresh as you can get. The shop has the benefit of being in the village for the casual purchase of things you may run out of. A walk to it is better for you and cheaper than buying the petrol to go to Didcot or Tesco's.

Danyelle gives a final motto –If you don't want to lose us use us.

Clive Silver

Right Ho Wodehouse!

Thank-you to everyone who has supported the visiting theatre groups performing in the village Hall over the autumn & winter season. These performances, while being subsidised by the Vale of White Horse D.C., also provide funds for the Village Hall Committee to put towards renovation work.

The last performance of the season on Saturday 27th April is Right Ho Wodehouse! – a comedy based on the writings of P.G. Wodehouse, devised and performed by Christopher Owen with songs by Jerome Kern and Ivor Novello. Tickets are £6 for adults and £4 for concessions and are available from White Horse Newsagents, so do come along and enjoy excellent theatre on your doorstep whilst supporting your Village Hall at the same time!

Harwell Bowls Club

After reading this space in the last edition of the Harwell News you had made a resolution to try, or, return to playing bowls, remember? Well, the time draws near. The date is May 6th., the time is 6.30p.m. and the place is Harwell bowling green in Westfield. No charge, no obligation, just turn up on that evening and enjoy yourselves. You will be made very welcome and bowls will be provided. All that we ask is that you wear shoes that will make no impression on our hallowed turf. If you should decide to join the club then there is no better time to do it because we have specially low rates for all new members in this our 70th anniversary year which, of course, is also the Golden Jubilee of the accession of our Queen to the throne. How low is the new member fee? This year, new members will pay £10 for their annual membership, regardless of age. The usual fees are £30 for ordinary members, and £24 for OAPs, so this year's fees represent a great saving! Come and join us. For further information phone Barrie Turner on 821248.

*St Matthew's Harwell with
All Saints Chilton
warmly invite you to*

Jubilee Songs of Praise

Sunday 2nd June 2002

6.0 pm

*in the craft marquee
on Harwell Recreation ground
all ages welcome*

*Come and celebrate with us the
Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth
and God's blessings throughout her reign.*

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Harwell Environment Group

On Sat. 20th April we are to help UKAEA to move about 500 white helleborines to a safer place within the security fence. If you would like transport please contact me on 821248. We meet in the car park outside the main gate at 10p.m. All welcome. Bring your own spade!

The same evening we have our AGM. At each of the last two AGMs only nine members attended. We would like at least ten for our AGM on Thurs. April 18th. Usual venue, British Legion club room, usual time, 8p.m. AGMs do tend to be a bit boring but there is a promise which I can make: it will be short. This then gives us lots of time for general discussion, observations and a drink at the bar. Please attend if you can.

On May 16th. Dr. Robin Buxton, chairman of the Northmoor Trust, is coming to tell us about the Long Wittenham Nature Reserve.

The Group cannot operate without money so, on Saturday, May 18th. there will be a coffee morning to raise funds. There will be the usual tombola, bring and buy, plants for sale etc., and an opportunity to see a greenhouse hydroponics system in operation as well as a wildlife pond and a fish pond. The plants for sale will include five different varieties of tomato plants, cape fuchsias, sweet corn, sweet peppers, fuchsias, runner bean plants, evening primrose plants and many more.

We shall have a stall at the fete in early June. All contributions gratefully received.

Barrie Turner

Age Concern - Day Care in Chilton

Wanting to enjoy a day out? Here is an opportunity to meet others, have a hot nourishing meal and participate in activities of your choice. The staff of Chilton Downs Day Centre invite you on Thursdays from 10 until 3pm in Chilton Village Hall. If you or a member of your family is interested call Age Concern on 01865 240619.

'Harwell on Feast Day'

Prints (framed and unframed), and greetings cards, from an original watercolour by Linda Benton, will be on sale in the Craft Tent at the Feast. Prices: Cards £1, Prints £10, Framed Prints £25. These are also available now from White Horse News for the cards & The Post Office in Bobs for the prints.

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The Golden Jubilee Harwell Feast

Bank Holiday Monday 3rd June

10.30am St Matthews Bellringers

11am High Street Parade:

Decorated Floats

Jubilee Queen & Princesses

Bagg's Tree Buskers

Reading Scottish Pipers

Wantage Silver Band

Benson Veteran Cycles

Vintage Cars & Tractors, Stilt Walker

Military Vehicles, Traction Engines

New categories: Walking Fancy Dress Entries &
Decorated Cycles - why not join the Parade -
details from Trevor Packer 835436

11am Recreation Ground:

Car Boot Sale (£7 per pitch)

Fun Run (details Martin Gibson 221125)

Craft Tent (details Barry Dearlove 210620)

Fun Dog Show (details Jose Rostagni 221209)

Children's Fancy Dress Competition

Class 0 - 5 years, 6 - 11 years

All entrants are invited to rine in the parade on the
Fancy Dress Float - assemble Townsend 10.30,
Judging in the Rec 12 noon.

Bonny Baby Competition (up to 12 months)
Judging 12.30

Children's Races with Mr Cansell

Country Dancing by Harwell School Children

Traction Engine Rides

Uncle Brian, Ensor Entertainment

Fairground & Bouncy Castle

Wallingford Dog Training Club Displays

Island Farm Donkeys, Tug-of-War

Tiger Moth Flypast & Landing

Double Pig Roast & Barbecue

Entry: Adults £1 children free

Main Sponsor: UKAEA at the Harwell
International Business Centre

All proceeds from Feast Day 2002 to Village
Organisations

Village Organisations are invited to set up fund-
raising stalls f.o.c. - contact Janice Markey 832802

Village Hall News

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE YOUR VILLAGE HALL FOR GRANTED

Did you know that the Village Hall is run entirely by a voluntary committee? In particular, Martin Ricketts, the Chair, and Trevor Packer, the Treasurer, put in hours of time every month so that the Village Hall can be a useful available space for any and all village groups to use at extremely reasonable rates. Regular users include: The Busy Bees Music Group, Dancing Lessons, The Fun Club Toddler Group, The Gardeners Club, The Great Western Society, The Out and About Club, The Philatelic Society, The Rabbit Club, The Short Mat Bowls Club, The Upholstery Club, The Venture Scouts, The W.I. and the Youth Club. We are also a very popular party venue with our cheap day-time hourly rate of only £3-30 (Village Hall) or £2-50 (Freeman Hall) attracting a lot of children's parties.

At the last committee meeting we heard that we are going to need a lot of extra fund-raising this year to enable us to afford new curtains, new chairs and tables and re-decoration of the inside of the building. Our main fund-raisers are the theatre productions we host at regular intervals, ably organised by Janice Markey. These are professional theatre productions with excellent acting, direction, staging, lighting and so on. The last one was not very well attended and only made a profit of £26 even though every one there agreed it was excellent. The next one, 'Right Ho Wodehouse' takes place on Saturday 27th April. Please come and see it if you possibly can, otherwise we may not be able to carry on holding them in Harwell, which would be a real pity.

In order to avoid an increase in hall fees, we are asking all our regular users to look at different fund-raising ideas and bring them to the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 13th June at 7-30 p.m. in the Village Hall. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Fiona Tankard, Booking Secretary, 861593.

Opera Anywhere Presents

Carry On Gilbert & Sullivan

Saturday 11th May 7.30pm

Amey Hall, Abingdon

For tickets call 01865 305 305

Harwell News Publication Date

The deadline for the next issue is 1st June. It will appear about 10th June, to include items from the Harwell Feast. Items to Martin Ricketts at 16 The Park, email m.j.ricketts@rl.ac.uk

Advertisement rates: For the standard-sized ad (1/5 of a column) the cost inc. vat is now £35 per year, £7 1 issue

Oxfordshire Country Fayre

The Oxfordshire Country Fayre will take place on Sunday 26th May, at Barracks Farm, South Stoke (Wallingford). The site is ideally situated off the A4074 from Reading to Oxford and has the beautiful Oxford Downs as its backdrop.

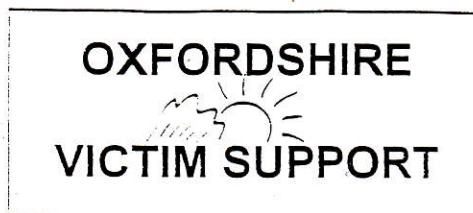
The day will provide a huge variety of events to entertain all members of the family. In the *Main Ring* we will have The Hawk Master Falconry Display, where Horsemanship and Falconry skills are combined for a breathtaking display, a Gun dog Display team, Fly Fishing Demonstrations where members of the public will be invited to have a go. The excitement of the Tug of War finals will be calmed with the parade of decorated floats from the various YFC clubs around the county. A Silver Band will also be playing.

There will be a display of Vintage Tractors and Heavy Horses, they will also parade in the main ring, providing a huge contrast to the modern farm machinery of today that will be on the many trade stands around the Main Ring.

A visit to the *Food Hall and Craft Marquee* will provide the opportunity to sample delights from local producers and those further afield. The YFC Exhibition Tent will house the entries from the various competition entries ranging from cookery, photography, flower arranging and crafts. The Practical Tent is where the YFC members compete "on site" - this can provide some very entertaining moments as you watch them decorate a cake, create an outfit out of carrier bags, parade the catwalk in their own fashion parade and more. This year we also have Anthony Worral-Thompson, our local celebrity chef, sitting for a Caricature competition.

Further attractions will include our *Countryside Area* where you will be able to visit the Falcons and other Birds of Prey, cheer on the Ferret Racing, watch a Blacksmith at work and more. We also have the Dirt Devil Go Karts - a quad bike circuit for the young at heart, a Fun Fair and Crossbows.

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Harwell Village

Neighbourhood

Watch

SEASONAL REMINDERS

Garden Sheds are the target for many crimes during the summer months. Do secure your sheds with stout locks and keep a look out for anyone acting suspiciously, during the daytime, as well as at night. Have you post coded your lawn mower?

Some useful tips if you are going on Holiday?

Is there anybody who can make your house look less obvious that it is empty?

Open and close the curtains for you

Turn the lights on and off

Water the garden

Mow the lawn

If not have you got time switches on your lamps?

Cancelled your milk and newspapers

Useful Contacts

The Vale of White Horse Regional Administrator is Carol Reaney Tel 01235 556938. The Ringmaster Administrator is Sarah Morton Tel 01235 556957

If you do see anyone, either on foot, or in a vehicle, acting SUSPICIOUSLY PLEASE DO REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY Phone 01235 776000 and ask for the Wantage Control Room. Relevant messages will be sent by Ringmaster to Village Co-ordinators.

Alternatively you can contact CRIMESTOPPERS on 0800 555 111, who guarantee ANONYMITY for the CALLER.

Plus *The Wallingford Story* - a 'Sight & Sound' experience →

March to November • Tues to Fri: 2.00-5.00pm • Sat: 10.30am-5.00pm
Sun (June-Aug) & Bank Hol Mon: 2.00-5.00pm • Party bookings: tel (01491) 651127

← Wallingford Museum • High Street • Wallingford • Oxon
Tel (01491) 835065 (during opening hours)

The Museum is located opposite the Kinecroft next to the Public Library

Right Ho, Wodehouse!

A comedy based on the writings of PG Wodehouse
Devised and performed by
CHRISTOPHER OWEN

Lord Emsworth of Blandings Castle to address the Parva Village Literary Society on the life of PG Wodehouse!

HARWELL VILLAGE HALL
Saturday 27th April 2002 7.30pm
Tickets available from White Horse Newsagents, Harwell



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2002

'Sweet Thames Run Softly'

The life & work of wood engraver

Robert Gibbings

Robert Gibbings (1889-1958) ran the prestigious *Golden Cockerel Press* near Reading. Later Lecturer in Typography at Reading University, he took a series of trips along the Thames which formed the basis of very successful books which he wrote and illustrated. His final years were spent at Long Wittenham where he is buried.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

Royal Celebrations in Wallingford

To celebrate this year's 50th anniversary of the Accession of Queen Elizabeth II, we present a special exhibition which will spread throughout the Museum. Designed very much in festive mood, the displays feature photographs and fascinating souvenirs which reflect the way the people of Wallingford have celebrated Royal Events including jubilees and Coronations from the time of Queen Victoria.



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