

Parish Council News

October Meeting

In the Open Forum, Mrs Sue Greatbanks reported on the playground refurbishment project. Work had gone well so far on Phase 1; some extra expenditure might be incurred on safety fencing, etc, but the cost would be met out of existing funds. The zipwire for Phase 2 has been ordered and the opening ceremony was to be held on 27th October – see the separate report. Later, under matters related to Council-owned lands, the Council approved the purchase of the phase 2 equipment.

Our District Councillors, Reg Waite and Mrs Margaret Turner, had submitted a written report; items from it are given below on page 4.

Mr Ricketts had tabled a resolution proposing that the Council treats income and expenditure on the Parish Allotments as a separate fund so the surplus on one year would not be just put into general expenditure. After some discussion, including a clarification that the Council did not have any funds as suggested, Mr Ricketts withdrew the resolution.

Under other Parish matters, it was reported that Sovereign Housing is close to purchasing the strip of ground behind Orchard Way which was formerly suggested as a site for an affordable housing development, and it is currently carrying out surveys.

Under correspondence, The Clerk reported that the WI had asked for permission to replace its Memorial Bench in the cemetery with a metal one; the Council had no objections provided that regular maintenance was carried out. Also an allotment tenant had written to appeal against the water charges at the site; this was referred to the Lands Committee for consideration.

November Meeting:

Under the Open Forum, District Councillors described the draft recommendations from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) for changes to the District Council, which might necessarily include changes to the Parish Council.

Mr Waite urged residents to voice their opinions and raise concerns with LGBCE. The consultation is taken very seriously and those interested in the review should let the LGBCE have their views and evidence, whether or not they agree with the draft proposals, by 7th January 2013. See the separate item on the proposals and on how to comment on page 3.

Goodman had put plans for the proposed housing on the Campus site on display on the day of the meeting, and some Councillors had been able to get to see them. It was reported as likely that a planning application will be submitted before the end of December. The Council had some concerns about waste collection, mainly that there should be enough space for collection lorries to manoeuvre without causing damage to verges etc. Mr Waite promised to find out how this matter can be

handled by Planners. Mr Marsh agreed to draft a response to Goodman on the Council's behalf.

Under Financial Matters, the Parish Council considered a request from the Trustees of the Village Hall that the planning application for the Village Hall redevelopment be submitted by the Parish Council, and that the Parish Council appoints the Village Hall architect as its agent to submit the application on its behalf. This was to be subject to the Chairman being satisfied that the application submitted matches the plans currently displayed on the Village Hall website.

The Clerk & Chairman had taken advice and found this manner of proceeding to be in accordance with ORCC and HMRC guidelines. Mr Marsh stated that the full plans have been freely available to the public and that Councillors should be satisfied that they were happy with those plans before agreeing to the proposal. Submitting the planning application would not place the Council under any further obligations with regard to the village hall project. The proposal was carried unanimously.

Then there was a proposal that the Parish Council “welcomes the inclusion of a Parish Office in the Village Hall plans, and looks forward in due course to agreeing appropriate terms for its use”. Mr Marsh commented that terms of use of a Parish Office have yet to be agreed, and that a meeting should be set up with village hall Trustees at a later date, as necessary. Advice taken by Trustees from VWHDC indicates that the office would not need a separate external entrance, but would still be liable for Council Tax. The Clerk pointed out that it may need a separate entrance anyway if the new building is to be licensed.

Under Council Lands Matters, there was a report on the Play Area; phase 1 was complete and the zip wire had been installed. WREN funding of £50,000 has been paid to the Council and an interim report made to WREN outlining the current status of the project. The County Council had awarded £2000; County Councillor Stewart Lilly had assisted with the application to the Big Society Fund. Once the invoice for the zip wire has been paid, the total net cost to the Council will be about £13,000, with grants still being sought for Phase 2.

The Chairman David Marsh wished to record formal thanks for the Playground Refurbishment Committee and all fundraisers for the hard work done so far to get the project to its current stage, and for organising the Open Day, which was a great success. Mrs Beswick reported that the new playground is proving very popular with children of all ages. A RoSPA inspection has been arranged for later in the week, and Council inspections will now resume as part of the maintenance programme; grounds staff perform weekly inspections and a Councillor follows this up monthly. Since the meeting a satisfactory report has been received from RoSPA.

The last Lands Committee meeting had not been quorate, but notes have been circulated. Committee

members asked that various trees be looked at by the VWHDC Arboricultural Officer, and agreed that as water is available at the allotments site to all tenants, no reduction should be made in the rent for anyone not using water on their plot; Mr Buxton agreed to liaise with Mr Lilly regarding the siting of the new bus stop planned for Tyrells Close. Mr Buxton reported they had drafted amended User Agreements for recreation ground and pavilion users; the Clerk had raised some queries and the draft documents had not yet been circulated.

The proposal to adopt the revised Allotment Tenancy Agreement, and agree that the document should be reviewed annually along with the Lands Management Plan was carried, subject to final agreed amendments. Mr Buxton had reported that he had circulated the draft document, to the Allotment Tenants' Group as well as to the Council, and following discussion, several further amendments had been suggested.

The Clerk reported that OCC is consulting on arrangements for Broadband provision & upgrading. Mr Marsh agreed to be the main contact for OCC. Fast broadband provision is poor throughout Oxfordshire, and funding is available for upgrades if a case can be made. Mr Marsh has been trying to find out whether there are any plans by BT to upgrade the Rowstock exchange, but at the moment that seems unlikely.

Full minutes of Parish Council meetings are available on the web, in draft form until approved at the following meeting. In December the Council will meet as the Finance Committee to consider the precept for next year. The next Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 8th January. Items for the agenda need to be with the Clerk, Mrs S. Taylor one week before the meeting.

Contact her on 01235 820006 where messages can be left, email clerk@harwellparish.co.uk, or by post to P.O. Box 223 Wantage OX12 2DH. Office hours, in the Pavilion, are 9am to 5pm Mondays.

To contact Councillors, see the appropriate page at www.harwellparish.co.uk

Ed Vaizey MP local surgery dates

December 7th 2012 Wantage Civic Hall 5:30 to 7pm

There is no need to make an appointment. Or you can contact him by email – vaizeye@parliament.uk



didcot@thomasmerrifield.co.uk
01235 813777

Your Local Independent Estate Agents
If you are thinking of selling, would like a free market appraisal or expert advice then please contact us.

Planning Matters

(Decisions notified since the PC meeting are included.)

Permissions:

P12/V1702/HH Fern Bungalow, Didcot Rd Erection of single storey conservatory (retrospective)

P12/V1740/HH Early Rivers, Grove Rd Remove existing conservatory. Extension & alteration to provide new kitchen & living area for registered disabled person wheelchair access.

P12/V0815 Thistledome, Grove Road Proposed front garage with dormer windows & new gable dormer to east elevation

P12/V1355/HH & P12/V1356/LB Kings Farm House Townsend Renovations & alterations to listed building.

P12/V1911/HH Look West High Street Demolition and reinstatement of front garden wall, including removal of adjacent hedge.

Harwell Parish Council did not object to this application, but requested that neighbours' comments be taken in consideration, including a request that the line of the new wall be moved back to the original boundary line, in line with the Tigin Ban wall, and restoring the pavement to its proper width.

P12/V2305/D Whessoe Tanks, Liquid Effluent Treatment Plan Eighth Street Research Site Restoration Limited (RSRL) Harwell Didcot, Oxford OX11 0DF

Prior notification for demolition of the Whessoe tanks and associated pump houses. The associated closure of the Bridleway BR19 has been extended to May 2013.

Applications:

P12/V2258/HH 40 North Drive Erection of two storey side extension.

P12/V2098/HH Rose Dene Didcot Road Replacement of existing garage and store.

Planning Committee members had asked that Planners take neighbours' comments into account, also that attention is given to the overall size of the proposed garage, especially with regard to roof height in relation to existing electrical cables, and that consideration is given to the fact that Green Road is a footpath not a road for motorised traffic.

Mobile Library

The **Mobile Library** will be in the Village Hall car park between 9.15 and 9.40am on the following Wednesdays December 6 and 20, January 3, 17 and 31.



Harwell Dental Practice
Curie Avenue, Harwell, OX11 0QQ.
01235-831889 www.harwelldental.co.uk

Fully independent local dental care
Easy free parking

Planning and Boundaries

Housing at South Drive on Harwell Campus

As noted in the Parish Council News a planning application will be made soon for 125 houses at South Drive on Harwell Campus. Most of the residents of North Drive, who will be most affected by this application, should be aware of this, and had an opportunity to see the exhibition with details of the plans. The Parish Council will be reviewing the plans and providing formal comment to the Vale, and will welcome input from any Parish resident.

Housing on Grove Road

Developers have raised what is called a pre-screening application for 70 houses on a site on Grove Road (on the left as you drive out of the village, just beyond Manor Green). What they want to find out just now is whether or not they will be required to include a full (and expensive) Environmental Impact Assessment along with their eventual planning application. This pre-screening application is not open for consultation, but it provides us with advanced notice that in the next few months a formal application may be submitted.

If and when an application is submitted the Parish Council will ensure that there is appropriate consultation and everyone will have a chance to make their views known.

Boundary change proposals for District Councillors

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has been reviewing Parliamentary and County Council ward boundaries and is now looking at revised boundaries for our District Councillors. Their proposal combines Harwell Parish with Chilton, Upton and Blewbury, which makes sense. However, they propose excluding the Harwell Campus area (everything south of the A417, which includes the North Drive Houses, and those proposed for South Drive) from this District Ward and combining it with the East Hendred District Ward.

A consequence of this proposal, is that, although the Parish Boundaries would not change, there will have to be two wards with the Harwell Parish, one for the little bit on the Campus, for which four Councillors are recommended, and the rest of the Parish (almost all of it!) for which seven Councillors are recommended.

The Parish Council will be providing feedback to LGBCE suggesting that this is not very sensible, and recommending that the Harwell Campus area remains part of the Parish with respect to the District Ward. If any of you feel the same way, do please provide comments direct to the LGBCE - see the Parish Council website for details of how to find the right place on the LGBCE website.

Follow up

Details of each of these proposals can be found on the Parish Council website, together of course with contact details of all the Parish Councillors. If you have opinions on any of these items, do let us know.

David Marsh

Chairman, Harwell Parish Council

Treat yourselves to a holiday of a lifetime Explore FLORIDA from our private villa

- Minutes from DISNEY and many golf courses
- 4 double bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, sleeps up to 10
- Own south facing swimming pool & covered patio
- Air conditioned & fully equipped
- Rent the villa from £495 per week
-

Phone Vicki or Mike on 01865 390125
or email vicki.jack@virgin.net

Harwell Window Cleaning Service

We provide a friendly reliable service every 4-5 weeks. Free quote - no obligation • Est 1990

Contact Craig Taylor

Tel: 01235 512881 - Mob: 07778 661548

www.elitewindowcleaningservices.com

A bill can be left for postal payment if you are not home.

Online payment are also welcome.

Other services include: Conservatory roof cleaning • Fascias cleaning, Gutters Unblocked & Cleaned out



Abilock

Lock Technicians & Master Locksmiths

- Locks opened, fitted and serviced
 - Emergency Entry
 - Key Cutting
- Keys cut to code - if your lock or key has a number, we can usually do it.
- Free quotes and free security / insurance surveys

Lewis Beadle and Son-in-law Craig Cruickshanks (Harwell resident) Competitive rates and professional service

Established 1978

T 01235 847971

M 07899896923

www.abilock.co.uk



REX GARAGE

Vicarage Road, Didcot, OX11 8EL

Winners of the 2012 Didcot Business and Community Award for Customer Service

Servicing • Repairs • MOTs • Diagnostics • Tyres
Batteries • Air-conditioning • Exhausts
Town centre location

In celebration of our success in the Business and Community Awards, we are offering a 10% discount on vehicle servicing. Please bring this advert with you. Offer available until 30th January 2013.

01235 813227

www.rexgarage.co.uk

District Council Matters

The Council ward boundary proposals are covered above. Other news from your District Councillors:

People in the Vale of White Horse can now park free for two hours every day of the year in District Council car parks and will be able to take advantage of **a day of free parking** in the run up to Christmas. In Abingdon this is on Saturday 1st December, while in Wantage it will be on 8th December.

The annual free parking tradition is provided by the District Council to encourage people to shop locally for their Christmas presents, helping to boost the local town centre economy in the process.

You have the chance to comment on the future provision of **leisure facilities** in the District.

The Vale of White Horse District Council has published a draft strategy looking at the future provision of leisure and sports facilities until 2029 and is asking residents and community groups to comment on the proposals.

The Leisure and Sports Facilities Strategy provides a guide on how the council should focus delivery of leisure and sports services.

The draft strategy asks residents to consider the major facilities used by the community for sport and physical activity, and specifically includes: sports halls, swimming pools, artificial grass pitches, athletics tracks, health and fitness provision, indoor bowls, indoor and outdoor tennis, multi use games areas, squash courts, and grass playing pitches.

Views from the consultation will be used to further develop and finalise the strategy. You can view details of the consultation at www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/haveyoursay. You have until Monday 17th December to comment.

Residents in the Vale of White Horse District Council were named as the **top recyclers** in Great Britain in official government figures released recently. The Vale of White Horse was top of the tables with a recycling rate of 68.7 per cent, closely followed by South Oxfordshire with a rate of 67.9 per cent. Both districts leapfrogged last year's lead authority area Rochford, who ended up in third place with 67.4 per cent or their rubbish recycled.

Here are some interesting facts about recycling –

- there is no limit to the number of times aluminium cans can be recycled
- rubber shoe soles can be recycled to make basketball courts and soccer fields
- recycled glass bottles can be made into roads, tiles, even surfboards
- recycled plastic bottles can be made into rugs, jackets, fences and more
- recycled paper takes about 60% less energy and water to make new paper.
- recycling a 3-foot high stack of newspapers can save one whole tree.

Reg Waite reg.waite@whitehorsedc.gov.uk
& Mrs Margaret Turner, tel 01235 821248.

Police Surgeries and Advice

Have Your Say meetings are held monthly in the Village Hall. The next are:

Saturday 29th December 12 noon to 1pm

Sunday 27th January 12 noon to 1pm

There has been an increase in daytime burglaries along the A417. The Wantage East Neighbourhood PCSO'S have increased their regular high visibility foot and vehicle patrols. Please be extra vigilant, if you see any suspicious persons or vehicles call the police and help us to catch those responsible.

There has been an increase in hare coursing over the last few weeks; Offenders from all over the country come into the area between the months of September and March to commit hare coursing and poaching offences. In the process they commit criminal damage and public order offences against land owners and gamekeepers. Members of the Neighbourhood team were involved again in Operation Migrate to tackle these issues.

From 3 December, **all reports of fraud** in the Thames Valley will be recorded by Action Fraud and individual police forces in the south east will no longer take any fraud reports. They will now be recorded centrally by Action Fraud.

If you want to report a fraud, please call 0300 123 2040, or visit the website www.actionfraud.police.uk

Thames Valley Police will continue to respond to reports of frauds in progress, but any other calls to report a fraud, including financially motivated e-crime, will be referred to Action Fraud. When a person calls to report a fraud, they will be provided with the Action Fraud phone number or website address.

*For the garden of your dreams –
consult a professional*

MARY ANN LE MAY GARDEN DESIGNS

Blissetts West Hagbourne Oxfordshire OX11 0ND
Tel: 01235 850523 Fax: 01235 851153

ANTIQUES - Wanted

**Single items or deceased effects cleared
Jewellery, silver, china, etc.
Furniture Pre 1930
Telephone 01235 221152**



SKINNER FENCING

**All types of fencing and
gates supplied and erected**

**Also, decking, pergolas built
Hedges and trees lopped
Gravel and shingle delivered**

**Call Shaun or Eve for a free quotation
01235 867352 or 07971 422693**

Little Pippins Pre-school & Harwell Playscheme

Little Pippins Pre-School is a charity with a new purpose built premises set in an idyllic orchard within the village. The qualified, caring and enthusiastic staff provide a stimulating and varied programme of play for children from the age of 2½ to school age.

We are delighted to announce that Little Pippins has been granted funding to set up a holiday playscheme for children between the ages of 3 and 11 years, starting in the February half term, providing a different childcare option during the school holidays for working parents.

We need to set up a sub-committee that reflects the user group of the scheme as quickly as possible to get the playscheme up and running by February and to recruit staff. If you are a parent from either Little Pippins or Harwell Primary School and you feel you would benefit from the playscheme, please do consider becoming involved in its management. Please email us at littlepippins@btinternet.com with your contact details and a note of how you would like to be involved or with any queries you may have.

The Pre-school currently offers the following term-time sessions:

Breakfast Club – 8am till 9:15am

Morning Session – 9:15am till 11:45am

Lunch – 11:45am till 12:30pm

Afternoon Session – 12:30pm till 3pm

After School Club – 3pm till 6pm - (in association with Harwell School)

We currently have very few spaces in some of our pre-school sessions so we do suggest that you register early and get onto the waiting list. We are now accepting registrations for September 2013. Please contact us if you would like to have a look round Registration forms and more information are also available on our website.

Our contact details are: Tel: 01235 821741,
Email: littlepippins@btinternet.com
Website: www.littlepippins.org.uk
Little Pippins Pre-School, Freeman Orchard,
Gaveston Road, Harwell, OX11 0HP

Upcoming events:

December 7th - Christmas Fair and Tree Festival
December 14th Nativity Play, Feb. 2nd Winter Ball



babies and toddlers at harwell



Are you a parent or carer for a baby or toddler, or even a mum-to-be? If so, come along to Fun Club and make new friends.

We meet each Tuesday (term time) at the Harwell Village Hall, 9.30am to 11.30am.

We have a wide variety of toys for all ages, a weekly craft activity, and there is a dedicated baby area..

The cost is £1.50 per family which includes a snack and a drink for the children and adults. Your first session is free.

If you would like any further information please email

Catherine.gowers@yahoo.co.uk

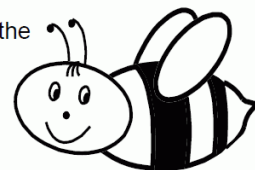
Busy Bees Music Group

Musical fun for babies and the under fives.

Friday Mornings

in term time

in the Village Hall, Harwell



Cost £3.20 per family includes coffee

www.busybeesmusic.co.uk 01235 521039



All year round
LANDSCAPING



GARDEN CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE



www.all-year-round-landscaping.co.uk



*Garden Makeovers *Driveways *Patios *Groundwork
*Fencing *Garden Clearance

Tel: 01235 810242 / 07966 411378

E-mail ben@all-year-round-landscaping.co.uk

REMLOC PLUMBING & HEATING

Trading Standards Approved
Gas Safe & CIPHE registered

- Boiler Servicing
- Central Heating Installations
- General Plumbing
- Free Estimates, No job too small
- Emergency call-outs

Contact: 01235 536345 / 07709 961 655

www.remlocplumbing.co.uk

email: remlocplumbing@btinternet.com

JANET LYNN FOOTCARE

Mobile foot care services including nail trimming, treatment of corns, calluses, fungal nails and more in the comfort of your own home

Day, evening and weekend appointments available

Janet Lynn MCFHP MAFHP

Tel: 07714 568115

www.janetlynnfootcare.com

Fully insured and with a clear CRB check



Harwell Jubilee Playground Opened

The Harwell Jubilee Playground committee would like to thank you all for your support on Saturday 27th, at the Opening Party. The occasion was a real village event and it was good to see so many village organisations taking part and residents, young and old, joining in the fun. Although cold it remained dry and sunny and a good time was had by all. The playground seems to have been in constant use since the party; the mud that your children brought home was evidence of this!

The contractors started building the Zip Wire on Monday 29th October and it is now fully operational, this is part of the second phase and is proving as popular as the other equipment. We are still waiting to hear from three more grant applications, which we hope will mean this phase should be completed early next year.

We are incredibly grateful for your support for this project and for making Saturday, although very cold, such an enjoyable occasion. We raised over £400 at the opening party thanks to the generosity of the village groups running stalls. Many people have helped to get this project of the ground and it is brilliant what we can achieve if we work together. As the Village Hall Committee says 'Be a part of it!'

Sue Greatbanks

Playground refurbishment Committee

See the Parish website, Village section, Jubilee Playground Page for more details and links to more photos. Photos above by Martin Ricketts.

Harwell playground on the recreation ground was opened by Olympic Torch Bearers Fiona Danks and Emma Cuthbertson helped by Paralympic Torch Bearer Dave Bracher, seen inset with Parish Council Chairman David Marsh.

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel



Saturday 8th December 2012

Harwell Village Hall

Film 2:30pm & 7:30pm

Tea/Coffee at the Matinée

Bar at the Evening showing

Tickets £5 from:

Bob the Butcher, High Street, Harwell
or Barbara on 01235 835698 - in aid of

HARWELL VILLAGE HALL

REDEVELOPMENT

'Be part of it!'





Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service 2012

The 2012 Parade and Services were organised by Harwell Legion Branch and Harwell Church on behalf of Harwell Parish Council. Parish Councillors closed the roads and marshalled the traffic.

The Parade marched from Townsend to the War Memorial in the High Street and included Harwell Parish Council, Royal British Legion Harwell Branch, Didcot Detachment Army Cadet Force, 2410 (Didcot) Squadron Air Training Corps, 1st Harwell St Matthew's Scouts and Girl Guiding Harwell, about 120 people in total and 7 Standards. The ATC and ACF cadets formed a Guard of Honour at the War Memorial. It was good to see the Scouts, Guides and ATC attend again and to welcome the ACF as new attendees this year.

The Service at the War Memorial was attended by about 350 villagers. It was conducted by was conducted by the Rector of St Matthew's, Harwell, Jonathan Mobey, with the choir from Harwell Church leading the singing.

The Last Post was sounded and the Two Minutes Silence observed. Wreaths were laid by Harwell Parish Council, Royal British Legion Harwell Branch, Didcot Detachment Army Cadet Force, 2410 (Didcot) Squadron Air Training Corps, 1st Harwell (St Matthew's) Scouts and Girl Guiding Harwell.

The Parade marched to St Matthews Church. Standard Bearers from the parade formed a Guard of Honour at

the entrance to the Church. The Church Service was attended by about 200 people.

Legion Members and members of the public attended the Ceremony at the War Graves in Harwell Cemetery after the Service.

Thanks are due to Harwell Gardeners Club for maintaining the gardens.

Peter Cox Harwell RBL Branch Secretary

Photographs by Keith Beswick

Harwell Village Hall

The Parish Council has applied on our behalf for permission to demolish the Freeman Hall and rebuild it as well as renovate the Village Hall; the Hall Trustees thank the Parish Council for their interest and help in furthering the project. We had nearly 300 people come and see the plans on October 21st. The plans are on the Village Hall Website www.harwellvillagehall.co.uk or you can see them on display in the Village Hall under the clock. The hard work to raise the funds starts - half a million pounds each for stages one and two.



HARWELL WI

The leaves have turned and dropped monotonously but seem to have been even more colourful this year. However, it doesn't take the edge off having to pick them all up!!

On 10th October Lee Butler gave a fascinating talk about 'Chinese Medicine'. This took an alternative look at our Health and Well-being and was greatly enjoyed by the assembled company.

Also in October a number of members went to the Group Meeting at Chilton Village Hall, an event where all the local WIs get together, and Marie Noelle Witty talked about 'The way the French eat'. This was followed by a buffet supper and was a very enjoyable evening.

On 14th November our very own Kate Beswick demonstrated the making of Corn Stars and everyone joined in and made a decoration.

To round off the year on 12th December, local Harwell chef, Adriana Rabinovich will be 'Cooking for Christmas' with festive tasty food ideas. We will be eating her food and drinking festive mulled wine.

January gets off to a flying start with an illustrated talk about 'The Source of The Thames' and February, 'Garden History and Design', finishing the WI year in March with the AGM.

The new programme, starting in April, is well on the way to being finalised with some exciting new topics including Digital Photography, Quilting, Classic Cars and even Belly Dancing!!

There are also Theatre trips, as and when available during the year, which are notified to those wishing to be involved. There are also many other outings organised by Oxfordshire Federation of WIs and these can be attended by the members and booked via our Club Treasurer.

Come and see for yourself. Find out at first hand the many interesting speakers, visits and outings we have to offer. Visitors are always welcome. Meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. For more information about joining us or about any of the above activities, contact our Secretary, Penny Marsh, on 01235 835430.

Email: penny@digitalsafaris.com



Fingers & Forks Limited

9 Manor Green, Harwell Village, Oxfordshire OX11 0DQ

Tel: 01235 835198

Email: info@fingersandforks.co.uk

Harwell Gardeners' Club

Our AGM and Christmas Party is on
Monday 3rd December

We begin the New Year on Monday 7th January when we welcome back Timothy Walker, who will talk on

An all Year round border – bordering on insanity

Competition – Favourite Garden Photo

Meetings are at 7.30 p.m. in Harwell Village Hall. Visitors always welcome, as is anyone wishing to join the Harwell Gardeners' Club

Harwell Feast Village Quiz

Once again the Harwell Feast Quiz night was a great success with 15 teams averaging 7 members per team. The rounds were fought with great endeavour from all teams and the leader board showed differing strengths of the teams up to the half way mark. Initially *Rogers Relics* took the first round with *Brussel Sprouts* taking over. Then *Gangreen* showed their prowess easing into the lead and taking the final honours (Cup and first prize bottles of wine) with a comfortable majority:



Well done to all who took part and we look forward to your return next year

Roger Champion and Jan Heast were joint winners of the "Search and Find" competition and Roger Champion with a guess within 5 gm of the true value won the "Guess the Weight" contest.

Once again thank you to all those who took part and particular thanks to Colin Lamont for his fine performance as Quiz Master and raffle adjudicator.

Harwell Feast Committee

Shaun Guard TV AERIAL SERVICES

-  **Poor Reception Solved** - For Analogue and Digital TV
-  **TV and Radio Aerials** - Repair and Installation
-  **Extra TV Points** - For Aerial and Sky
-  **Sky TV** - Also Foreign Language Satellite

Call Abingdon 01235 239622

...now a part of  **OXFORD AERIALS**

Harwell Arts & Craft Group

Who are we?

We are a friendly bunch of like-minded people who enjoy a variety of crafts and hobbies and like to exchange ideas, give advice and in some cases teach others the basics of a craft new to them.

What are we?

We are a self-help group and that includes making your own tea/coffee when and as often as you like, helping with the setting up and putting away of tables & chairs and we find that everyone are always willing to help each other.

Why did we start?

Life is hectic these days and we know that some people find it difficult to set aside time for their hobbies (if it's not in the diary then it can't be done), or some do not like doing it on their own or simply just do not have anywhere to do them so this is the group for you to join.

What do we do?

We currently have the following activities, woodwork, upholstery, mosaic, card making, scrapbooking, knitting, crochet, various embroideries, water colour and acrylic painting, model building, jewellery, wool spinning and more.

Invitation!

We would like to offer an invitation for others to pop in and see what we do, have a cup of tea and a biscuit and hopefully come and join us with their hobby. There is no annual membership just a weekly fee of £2 and come when you like. The group is open to men (don't be shy) and women of all age groups.

Another year gone!

Where does the time go this is our first newsletter this year and we have been very busy. The year started off with a fundraising coffee morning in support of the

RNLI SOS day. In terms of demonstrations/workshops we have had Canal Boat Art with Wendy Sinclair, paper cutting pictures with Sarah Wheeler, Jo Sonja paint and other finishes with Flutterby Crafts, Needle felting with No Two Things and a talk by Amy Smith on her career as a tailor in London. January 2013 by popular request will see the return of Wendy Sinclair for another session of Canal Boat Art.

Our Annual Craft Fair in November was in support of the fundraising for the redevelopment of the Village Hall and we have donated £142. Instead of organising our own raffle the Trustees of the Village Hall were representing selling Christmas raffle tickets, 100 club membership, mugs and tickets for their first film evening (hopefully one of many). In addition to this earlier in the year the group donated £500 and continue to raise money by organising a monthly raffle among members.

We close for the Christmas Break on 13th December and return on 17th January 2013. Why not come along and join us Thursday morning 9.30-12.30

Wendy Metcalfe, June Levey, Maureen Davies, Jacky Hutchinson and Kath Luker.

Do something new in the New Year?

Join a Brass Band and make some new friends.

Over the last 18 months Blewbury Brass Band has established a learner band of around 10 adults and juniors that plays on a Wednesday evening at 6.30pm. The group attracts all ages from 7 1/2 to 78! On Saturday mornings one to one private tuition is available as is a group for complete newcomers to music.

secretary@blewburybrassband.org.uk

R H Fencing & Gates

All types supplied and erected
trees lopped & felled, stumps removed
hedges trimmed, gardens cleared
walls – paths – drives
sand, ballast, shingle supplied
for free estimate tel 835397

Ray Hinchliffe – Polkerris, High St. Harwell

BENTON & BRYAN BUILDERS

For all types of building work from a reliable local company

Extensions, Alterations, Kitchens & Bathrooms,
Carpentry, Decorating, Patios, Plastering,
Roofing, Brickwork and Plumbing

MOB: 07905386150

TEL: 01235 832513



TVE

DID YOU KNOW YOUR LOCAL HIRE CENTRE IS IN CHALLOW?

- Carpet Cleaners
- Cement Mixers
- Scaffold Towers
- Pressure Washers
- Vibrating Plates
- Chain Saws
- Garden Equipment
- Sanding Equipment
- Excavators/Diggers
- Dumpers
- Nailing guns
- Plus many other items

We are behind the petrol garage in Challow

Opening hours:
Mon-Fri: 7.30 – 5.00
Saturday: 7.30 – 12.30

Tel: 01235 772948

www.tvehircandsales.com
www.tvepowertools.co.uk

We also have a shop in Abingdon
Unit 16, WtG Ind Estate,
Faringdon Road
East Challow OX12 9TF

We sell power tools and garden equipment

Weekend rates available



DIRTY CARPETS? UPHOLSTERY?

GRIMEBUSTERS

WET OR DRY

CLEANING AT UNBEATABLE PRICES

OXFORD (01865) 726983
ABINGDON (01235) 555533
WITNEY (01993) 868924

www.grimebusters.co.uk

EUROCHAMBER

NCCB



Harwell Online

Penny Marsh is taking advantage of Wi-Fi internet installed in the Village Hall to start 'Harwell Online'. The sessions will be after lunch on **Mondays starting on 7 January**.

Harwell Online is for those of us who would like to catch up with the internet age. Penny is a qualified internet tutor and is the WI Digital Champion for Oxfordshire. The WI nationally is backing the Go On campaign to get its members and the wider community to go online.

She has experience working with Adult Learning and Age UK, helping seniors enjoy using the internet. Harwell Online is the place to learn at your own pace and not to be afraid to ask questions.

There are so many things that can only be done on the internet so why be left out? Your relatives overseas or your grandchildren will be really impressed when they get to chat with you using the internet rather than paying for expensive telephone calls. It's going to be fun and soon you will wonder how you managed without it! There will be time to chat over a cup of tea or coffee.

What do you need to join Harwell Online? We want you to bring your laptop or tablet with you so you can be shown how to do things on your own equipment. We will supply everything else you will need to get online in the Village Hall. You will be helped setting up your equipment.

Interested? No excuses then, contact Penny on 835430.

When you are part of the Harwell Online community you will have no problems with sending an email to her penny@harwellonline.org

Harwell Safari Supper 2013

The next village Safari Supper will take place on Saturday 16th March 2013.

This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a meal, explore the village, meet new faces and raise money for a good cause. It is a very popular event (121 attended last year) which sells out very quickly.

All money raised will go towards the Harwell Village Hall redevelopment project. More information about this project can be found on the Village Hall website, www.harwellvillagehall.co.uk. Last time we raised more than £2,000 and we are hoping to beat that.

There is a sliding scale of charges depending on your participation. The maximum ticket price is £20 per person for those who do not provide any of the courses. For that you get a delicious, home cooked, 3 course meal including wine with the first 2 courses and coffee with your desert.

An email has been sent recently to the mailing list. If you are interested in attending the supper and have not received the email or would like to find out more, then please email Debbie (debbie.greenfield@stfc.ac.uk) or phone 01235 820760 to make sure that you are included on the mailing list. We will start taking bookings in January and expect places to fill up very quickly.

How it Works

Each participant is told in advance which house in the Village they are to go to for starter. Once starters are over, envelopes are opened and everyone is told where to go for their main course. After the main course, the whole Safari meets up in the Village Hall for dessert and coffee.

Wine is provided by the hosts for the starter and main courses. Coffee is provided in the Village Hall to accompany your dessert or you can purchase wine or port if you prefer.

Couples are kept together but apart from that everyone is 'reshuffled' after the starter. So you meet different people at each course. A map will be provided to help you find the houses but please be aware that you may have to walk quite a way between courses.

Anyone can take part. If you don't live close enough to the Village to host a course then you can choose to provide a dessert or just come and enjoy the food. If you have children who require a babysitter then providing a starter can work well, as this reduces the number of hours that you are away from your house. Providing a main course is the most onerous option and is probably not advisable for complete newcomers to this event.

More guidance about timings and what is expected from hosts will be issued to all participants before the event.



*We wish Season's Greetings to
all Parishioners.*



WHEELERS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



CHOLSEY

DOMESTIC - INDUSTRIAL - COMMERCIAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

2, Honey Lane, Cholsey OX10 9NP
Tel: 01491 651356 Fax: 01491 652470
Email: sales@wheelers-electrical.co.uk

DP Supreme Maintenance

- Painting & Decorating - Tiling
- Kitchens & Bathrooms - Plastering & Coving
- General Maintenance

No job too small Friendly reliable service All jobs considered

Call 07790 049311 or 01235 203104





THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

The University of the Third Age comes to Didcot

The first meeting of the Didcot & District University of the Third Age is being held on Tuesday 15 January 2013 at 2pm at Didcot Civic Hall.

Didcot & District U3A is a learning cooperative of older people, which enables members to share many educational, creative and leisure activities. Activities are organised mainly in small groups that meet regularly. Members, through sharing their knowledge, skills and experience, learn from each other.

Nobody has to stop learning just because they've stopped working. The University of the Third Age is for people who want to keep active in mind and body and are no longer in full-time employment.

There's first age learning – at school, college, university; there's second age learning – the skills learnt at work and there's third age learning, when people learn whatever they want. That's what happens in U3A.

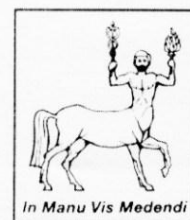
Anyone in the Third Age can join Didcot and District U3A and this includes people who are working part time. No qualifications are required, and none are given. There is no lower or upper age limit for membership.

The aims of D&D U3A are

- to encourage and enable older people in Didcot and District who are no longer in fulltime paid employment to help each other to share their knowledge, skills, interests and experience.
- to demonstrate the benefits and enjoyment to be gained and the new horizons to be discovered in learning throughout life.
- to celebrate the capabilities and potential of older people and their value to society.
- to offer a combination of opportunities to study, create, socialise, and in general, develop a fitter mind and body.

Didcot & District U3A is funded mainly by the subscriptions of its members. Its national representative body is the Third Age Trust (Registered Charity No 288007). The U3A in the UK was founded in 1982.

For further information contact Anne Hales, Chairperson D&D U3A on 01235 211291. www.u3a.org.uk



**Chiropractic,
The McTimoney way -**
Is a gentle and effective whole body treatment. It aims to correct the alignment of the spine and other joints of the body, to restore nerve function, to alleviate pain and to promote natural health.

For appointments call:
Lorna Walton - 01235 821858
(Harwell)

General Chiropractic Council Registered.

ARBOCARE TREE SURGERY

Professional tree care & Landscaping

- Pruning
- Felling
- Stump Grinding
- Hedge Trimming
- Crown reductions/ thinning
- Tree reports/surveys
- Patios
- Decking, Pergolas
- Ponds



0808 155 5815

01235 813 619

24 HOUR 07778 811 136

www.arbocare.co.uk



Exhibitions at Cornerstone

Winter Wonderland Until 23 December

See the transformation of our gallery into a seasonal wonderland! A colony of penguins, made by local schools, groups and visitors to Cornerstone settle in the gallery for the festive season joined by a sky filled with hand- drawn snowflakes and sound installations to create a truly magical environment.



RICHARD CAMPBELL
PGA Professional

**SMOKE ACRE DRIVING RANGE
CHRISTMAS SPECIAL**

2 X 40 MIN LESSONS
ONLY £35

To arrange Telephone 07884003189
Email richardhcampbell@hotmail.co.uk

PRYORS



The **local taxi firm** that's been at your service for over 50 years

- 24/7 manned service
- Airport transfers
- Taxis to and from Didcot Parkway Station
- Vehicles that can accommodate up to 6 people
- Wheelchair accessible vehicles

Call us anytime on **01235 812345** or
e-mail us on bookings@pryors.co.uk

**Sutton Courtenay
Environmental Education
Centre Events**

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
Oxfordshire



Christmas Wreath Making

Sat, 8th December – 10 am - 12 noon

£5 per person. Book now on: 01235 862024

Create your own willow frame and use natural materials collected from the nature reserve to decorate it. Suitable for adults and children 8+. BOOKING ESSENTIAL.

Earth Trust Events

Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham

www.earthtrust.org.uk

Sunday 2nd December, 10am-3pm.

Christmas at the Earth Trust.

Come and enjoy a few hours of Christmas cheer at the Earth Trust. Join a craft workshop and make traditional wreaths, fairy willow wands or aromatic orange pomanders. Take a guided family winter walk, meet Father Christmas in the Earth Trust Grotto or just enjoy a glass of mulled wine and mince pie in Poem Tree Cafe. Charges vary for each activity, from £1, check website for details. No booking required – just drop in, everyone welcome!

Friday 11th January, 6-8pm.

Dark of the Moon Hike.

Join us for a starlit countryside hike, we'll be looking for secretive animals and gazing at the stars. Adults £5, children £2.

Editorial Notes: Other than where stated and in reports of Parish Council matters any opinions expressed are not those of the Parish Council. Items for the February issue should be sent by January 20th. Email news@harwellparish.co.uk. Distribution by Mrs. Pat Staples, Talbot's Way, Grove Road. Advertising queries to the Clerk - see p2, [Martin Ricketts, editor](#).

Harwell School Association & Little Pippins Pre-school present the

Harwell Christmas Fair & Tree Festival

**FRIDAY
7th DECEMBER**

6.00-8.00pm

Harwell School

Includes the Village Christmas Tree Festival, plus Santa's Grotto, stalls, refreshments and Christmas Festivities ...

Entry by donation...

Pre-Book at the School Office to visit Santa in his Grotto. (sorry no extras on the day)

Many thanks to Chilton Garden Centre - Sponsors of the Christmas Trees

All proceeds to Harwell School and Little Pippins



Winter Wonderland
at Cornerstone –see p11

The Cherborne Gallery & Pictures Framing Service

www.thecherbornegallery.co.uk

Artist and Framer with 25 years experience offers a visiting service in your home.
Approx 10 mile radius of Harwell.

Services include Tapestry Stretching,
Old Canvas Stretching, Picture Cleaning
And Renovation,

Football Shirts & Memorabilia,
Coins & Trophies

Please ring mobile number, allow to ring twice, and I will call you back ASAP

No order paid for unless entirely satisfied

Call CHERRY on 07765 345 992

FOXWOOD

**BEAUTIFUL HANDMADE
KITCHENS & ISLANDS**

- Painted or waxed •
- Bespoke windows and doors •
- Fitted bookcases and cupboards •
- Extensions and building services •

www.fox-wood.co.uk

Tel/Fax: 01235 835553

Email: info@fox-wood.co.uk

Domestic & Insurance work specialists

Traditional plastering
With a modern, professional service!



Over 20 yrs of clean, quality finishing!

Visit our website for more info & our
Extensive list of services

www.southernplastering.co.uk