

The Four Parishes News Magazine

BECKLEY
FOREST HILL
HORTON-cum-STUDLEY
STANTON St JOHN



Spring flowers in Forest Hill

March 2019

The editor writes:



This month we have three new advertisers so please check them out and support them as much as possible. We are grateful to them and to all the other local businesses who advertise regularly with us and without whom we could not afford to get this magazine printed.

March is once again proving to be a very musical month in the Four Parishes with concerts by The Shotover Singers in Beckley and Stanton St John as well as the start of the third series of Sunday afternoon concerts at Forest Hill. These begin with a welcome return visit to St Nicolas by Lincoln College Choir who will be giving a preview of the repertoire prepared for their forthcoming tour to USA. There are details of plenty more activities in our villages, as well as updates on topical issues such as the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway and the South Oxfordshire Local Plan. I hope everyone will find something to enjoy!

Julia Stutfield

Our cover photo ...

was taken by Peter Stutfield from Forest Hill.

Peter has a selection of photos taken in our garden at all seasons of the year and can usually be relied on to find a suitable picture when no-one else has sent me one.

If you have taken a photo which you think might be suitable for the cover of the next magazine, please email it to 4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com

We welcome contributions or notices for future issues.
Please send them to:

Beckley

John Baker Tel: 07401 550537 johnbaker245@btinternet.com

Forest Hill

Linda Goffey Tel: 01865 873078 linda@goffey.co.uk

Horton-cum-Studley

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Stanton St John

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The closing date for the next issue is 15 March 2019

The Four Parishes News Magazine is produced under the auspices of our four village churches for the benefit of the whole community. It is funded by advertising revenue, which is used to cover the printing costs.

We are entirely dependent on volunteers to assemble the content, book and invoice the advertisers, compile and edit the magazine, collect it from the printers and distribute it throughout the four parishes. If you are interested in getting involved with any of these activities, please email Julia Stutfield 4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com

The Four Parishes News Magazine has 10 issues per year and is distributed free of charge to approximately 850 addresses in Forest Hill, Horton-cum-Studley, Stanton St John and Beckley.

**To advertise in the magazine please email JULIA
adverts.4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com**

Benefice of Beckley, Forest Hill with Shotover, Horton-cum-Studley and Stanton St John

Ministry Team

We are extremely grateful to all of our volunteer clergy and Licensed Lay Ministers for their generous support during the vacancy. Please contact the Church Wardens in the first instance with any enquiries.

Rev'd Hugh Lee	hugh.lee@btinternet.com Tel: 01865 316245
Rev'd Canon Beau Stevenson	beaumont.stevenson@gmail.com
Rev'd Stephanie Bullock	stephaniebullock9@gmail.com
Rev'd Dr. Elizabeth Hoare	liz.hoare@wycliffe.ox.ac.uk
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Joanna Allen (Ordinand)	jo.ordinand@gmail.com

Church Wardens

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Forest Hill

Jane Walker Tel: 01865 872399 lyttleton@btinternet.com

Pat Fraser Tel: 01865 875679 triciaann49@gmail.com

Horton-cum-Studley

Andrew Payne Tel: 01865 351018 andrewrobertsonpayne@gmail.com

Lynn Whitaker Tel: 01865 358838 lyndawhitaker@btinternet.com

Stanton St John

Sheila Pullen Tel: 01865 351210 dave.sheila53@gmail.com

Deirdre Young Tel: 01865 351745 youngdee@live.co.uk

Church Services in the Four Parishes, March 2019

	St Nicolas, Forest Hill with Shotover	St John the Baptist, Stanton St John	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Beckley	St Barnabas, Horton-cum- Studley
3 Mar	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	11am Parish Communion
		6pm Taizé	4pm Family Church (Beckley Village Hall)	
6 Mar <i>Ash Wed</i>	7.30pm Ash Wednesday Service with St Nicolas Choir at Forest Hill			
10 Mar	9.30am Family Service at Stanton St John		9.30am Family Service	11am Morning Prayer
	4pm Choral Evensong			
17 Mar	11am Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)	9.30am Parish Communion	[No morning service]	11am Family Service
		4pm Family Church (Stanton Village Hall)	6pm Iona Service	
24 Mar	10am Joint Benefice Service at Horton-cum-Studley			
31 Mar <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Family Service	9.30am Morning Prayer	11am Parish Communion
		6pm Church Without Walls (Stanton Village Hall)		

CHURCH NOTICE BOARD

Annual Parochial Church Meetings and Church Electoral Roll

Once every six years the preparation of new Church Electoral Rolls takes place, which means that in 2019 everyone has to come off the roll and re-apply. The Roll is used to determine eligibility for participation in the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC). See the individual village sections for more details, together with dates and times of the APCMs for each of the four parishes, which are being held separately this year.

Lent Quiet Morning Tuesday 26 March 9.30am - 12.30pm

We are delighted that the Revd Liz Hoare has very kindly agreed to lead a Quiet Morning for us at Stanton House during Lent.

The theme will be 'Ways of praying.' There is no one 'right' way to pray and we can all benefit from the tried and tested ways that Christians have practised in the past and continue to find helpful. The morning will explore just a few of these ways of praying alone and together. This Quiet Morning is open to anybody regardless of whether you come to church. The cost will be £5 to include coffee or tea and biscuits. Please let Hugh Lee know (01865 316245 or hugh.lee@btinternet.com) if you would like to come or would like to talk more about it.

GENERAL NOTICES



John Howell MP writes...

February 2019

In the last couple of months I have noticed that a number of local magazines and newsletters have carried articles on the proposed Oxford-Cambridge Expressway, even in villages that would not be directly affected. I have also had a number of people write directly to me on the issue. So this month I am dedicating my newsletter to this.

The proposed Expressway is part of a wider project over a geographical arc from Oxford to Cambridge via Milton Keynes. It is a wide-ranging project

and in terms of communications includes East-West rail, digital infrastructure as well as the proposed road link. Let me say upfront that in principle I am generally supportive. History has shown that we must be bold in these projects and look to the longer term with infrastructure investment.

The initial project on the road was launched in a strategic document prepared by the Ministry of Transport under the Coalition between the Conservatives and the Liberal-Democrats in December 2014 and all major political parties have supported the Expressway in the past. Much of the preparatory work for this was undertaken by the National Infrastructure Commission and Highways England have now taken it on. There has been debate over the possible route of the road, particularly at the Oxfordshire end. At early stages three potential broad corridors for the route around Oxford were put forward. In September last year the Minister has announced the proposed corridor would be Corridor B and discounted B2 leaving B1 and B3 for further investigation. B2 was discounted mainly due to the negative environmental impacts near to Horspath, Wheatley and the Otmoor Nature Reserve which are considered to be particularly difficult to overcome. The Minister has recently confirmed publicly in debate 'our strong preference is not to cross Otmoor. We have therefore selected options that do not do that; we have given that very clear signal.' The next stage is to look at detailed routes in the two corridors. I understand that there will be a public consultation in the autumn of this year.

In the absence of alternative information, I have taken the view that the route should utilise existing roads wherever possible rather than carve a new path through Green Belt land or damage other areas of environmental interest and I have suggested it needs to be routed to the west of Oxford. My rationale is that I have long since supported the need for the upgrading of the A34. I would be looking for improvements to the A34 along with measure to deter diversions through villages.

I do not anticipate any real news on this now until later this year. If there is an issue that concerns you please do let me know. you can email me at howelljm@parliament.uk or write to me at the House of Commons (House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA) or my constituency office (PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD).

Lincoln College Choir, St Nicolas Church, Sun 3 Mar at 3pm

The Choir, ahead of a tour to USA, will be performing the *Mass for Five Voices* by William Byrd and other works .

We are delighted that one of Oxford's finest mixed-voice chapel choirs has once again agreed to take precious time out during term to come and sing for us.



You are invited to Come, Hear, and Sing

Choral concerts at Beckley and Stanton St John churches

Songs of Love

Secular and Sacred

Tudor and Modern

The Shotover Singers

Saturday 30 March

Beckley Church

5.00pm – 6.00pm

Stanton Church

7.15pm – 8.30pm

Admission free. Donations towards repair of the church roof and stonework gratefully received.

Music and Madrigals from Gibbons, Byrd, Monteverdi, Goodall, Jerome Kern, Cole Porter, Lauridson, Whitacre, Reinberger and 'Jerusalem', 'Morning has broken' and favourite Hymns to sing. For more information contact:

susy.jepson@gmail.com (Beckley) or susanjbaker24@gmail.com (Stanton)

Radcliffe Hospital Orchestra Concert for Rosie's Rainbow Fund Tingewick Hall, John Radcliffe Hospital OX3 9DU, Sat 9 Mar 7.45pm

Program includes Mozart's Haffner Symphony and Oboe concerto, Ravel's Mother Goose Suite, and Beethoven's 2nd Symphony; conducted by George Caird. Tickets, including refreshments, available on the door, £12 (£10 concessions, children under 16 free).



Rosie's Rainbow Fund (registered charity 1105243) supports sick and disabled children in hospital, school, and in the community, and offers bereavement support for families after the loss of a child www.rosiesrainbowfund.co.uk.

BECKLEY

Beckley Church

Please see page 5 for details of all church services during March.

Family Service at Beckley Church

Starting in March, the Family Service in Beckley Church has been moved to the **second Sunday of the month** so that it is no longer on the same day as the Family Church in Beckley Village Hall.

It is with huge pleasure we can report that the Family Service is slowly but surely building up in numbers. In January we met & made New Year resolutions; in February we celebrated **Candlemas**, when we carried our lighted candles into every corner of the Church. In March we are having a **Pancake Praise**, but remember the date change means that **this service will be on 10 March.**

Mothing Sunday 31 March

There is nobody who has not had a mother and so we are going to pause and say thank-you for the mothers we now have or the mothers we once had.

Church Electoral Roll and APCM

Beckley Church APCM will be held on 7 April at 11am in the church. All parishioners are welcome to the meeting that, through various reports, will document the workings of the PCC during the past year; only members of the church Electoral roll are entitled to vote on the reports. Come at 10.30 and have tea/coffee and biscuits.

Our Electoral Roll is being totally revised this year and the existing members will be receiving notice of this. Should any parishioner wish to be included on the roll will they please contact John Baker (Secretary Beckley PCC) tel. 01865 351514, email johnbaker245@btinternet.com

Shotover Singers Concert, Sat 30 March at 5pm

'Songs of Love' concert in Beckley Church. Admission free. Donations towards repair of the church roof and stonework gratefully received. Contact : susy.jepson@gmail.com for more info. See also page 8.

The Iona Service

Interested in mindfulness? What about trying something new this year?

The Iona service is for people from different walks of life and traditions, all faiths and none. It is open to everyone, recognising how much we can learn from one another and the importance of coming together as a community to explore what inspires us.

Now in its eleventh year, we keep the service short to make it accessible for all ages. Making the most of our Christian heritage of centuries of contemplative prayer, we have simple prayers, chants and songs from the Celtic tradition of Iona and combine these with others from around the world. We also include a few minutes of silence and a brief talk from one of our number.

Come and snuggle in a blanket in our beautiful old building as we take time out of our busy lives to mindfully focus on what's important to us.

3rd Sunday of the month at 6pm in Beckley Church. (See list of services)

Kate Lea and Emma Fergusson

Beckley and Stowood Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 7 March at 8pm in Beckley Village Hall. Minutes and agendas and dates of future meetings are available at www.beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk and the Clerk's email address is clerk@beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk

Local Elections will take place on Thursday 2 May 2019 for Parish and District Councils in South Oxfordshire. Further information available at <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/services-and-advice/local-democracy/elections-0>

The Otmoor Flyer - Information on the village mini-bus service can be found on the Parish Council website.

Beckley Village Hall - For information please see www.beckleyvillagehall.org and to make a booking please contact Stuart Marshall, email booking@beckleyvillagehall.org

Fix My Street – find and report road or street problems at www.fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Beckley Village Hall

Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Beckley and Stowood Village Hall CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) will be held in the village hall on Wednesday 27 March at 8pm and is open to all local inhabitants. The hall is a registered charity for the benefit of local people. Please invite your members and neighbours to come along to hear what the committee have been doing on their behalf and to discuss ideas and plans for the future.

Nominations for new Trustees and for committee members who could help but do not wish to become legal trustees (we call them "Friends") would be particularly welcome.

The address of the Hall is Woodperry Road, Beckley, Oxfordshire, OX3 9UZ. Should anyone require more background prior to the meeting, please contact Geoffrey Mills, Chair (tel: 01865 351171, email: mills_geoffrey@ymail.com)

Weekly Activities at Beckley Village Hall

Table Tennis	Monday 10 - 11am	£8 per month (just appear)
Yoga	Monday 7.30 - 9pm	hayley_lennard@hotmail.com
Pilates	Tuesday 9.30 -11am	Kim Barresi 07918180392 kim.barresi@gmail.com
Beckley Bells	Tuesday 2 - 4.15pm	lizbixby@me.com
Senior Circuits	Wednesday 8.30 - 9.30am	£36 per month, £10 per session Carl Davis 01865 920460 Carl@over60exercise.com
Art Group	Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm	lizbixby@me.com

Monthly Activities

Oxford Guild of Weavers, Spinners, & Dyers 10am - 4pm 3rd Saturday

Family Church (CofE) 4 -5.30pm 1st Sunday. More information from Jo Allen jo.ordinand@gmail.com

Wanted

Does anyone have a full-size Table Tennis table that they no longer need and could donate or sell to the Beckley Village Hall table tennis group? If so, please contact Alison Kealy on 01865 358714

SCHOOL REPORT:

News from Beckley School

Swimming Gala

Beckley School WON the Wheatley Partnership Swimming Gala in Kidlington!

We are very proud of the children, not only for the win, but for the outstanding sportsmanship and grace shown in their victory.



Schools' Concert

On Friday 25 January, Year 4 visited the Sheldonian Theatre to attend Oxfordshire's Schools' Concert. The children learnt about the different instruments within an orchestra and listened to a range of exciting pieces.

Safer Internet Day

This year's campaign was designed to empower young people to take control of their digital lives and consider how consent works in an online context. In an interactive assembly, children explored how young people ask for, give and receive consent online. This could be in their friendships or relationships, how they take and share images and videos or how they manage their privacy and data. The children showed a keen awareness for how to keep personal data safe and know that if they are ever concerned about anything online to speak to a trusted adult. Classwork across the school throughout the day reinforced these important key messages.

IMPS Visit

Year 6 pupils visited the John Radcliffe Hospital to participate in the Injury Minimization Programme for Schools initiative, otherwise known as IMPS.



The children whole-heartedly engaged with the activities, which included learning how to do CPR and how to put somebody into the recovery position whilst being fully aware of surrounding dangers. Pupils also learnt about road safety and explored equipment used in Accident and Emergency departments.

Beckley & Area Community Benefit Society, The Abingdon Arms 'More than a Pub' programme, March 2019

Tues 5 Mar	WOMEN OF BECKLEY LUNCH	12.30pm Contact Sarah Smith for more information: beckleysarah@gmail.com
Wed 6 Mar	MEN OF BECKLEY LUNCH	12.30pm Contact Steve Smith for more information: barkbeetles@gmail.com
Fri 8 Mar	COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING	10.00 – 11.30am Coffee and biscuits £2. Espresso coffees and cake available too. Come along and meet old and new friends
Sun 17 Mar	COMMUNITY WALK	10.30am Meet in front of The Abingdon Arms. 3-4 miles / 2 hour walk, followed by drinks, lunch at the pub. Leader / route tbc
Sun 17 Mar	JAZZ, THE SUNDAY SESSION	6.30 – 8.30pm Brigitte Beraha (vocals), Frank Harrison (keyboards), Mark Hodgson (bass). Our first jazz vocalist, Brigitte is well known on the national circuit! Hear her here - http://www.brigitteberaha.com/music.html Free entry, raffle, bar snacks. Very cool sounds and a very warm welcome..
Thur 28 Mar	CHILDREN'S AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITY CAFÉ	3.30 - 4.30pm Primarily for pupils of Beckley Primary School. Activity / small cost for materials etc. Sign up with Aimee Butterfield aimeebutts1@yahoo.co.uk or text 07834 533177
Sun 24 Mar	LITERARY TALK	7.00 – 8.30pm 'With Great Pleasure' - Mary Stuck, Robert Booth : readings from poetry, prose, plays, biography, memoir. Organised by Joanna Matthews.
Wed 27 Mar	COMMUNITY AFTERNOON TEA	4.00pm - last Wednesday of each month. Afternoon tea with family, friends, neighbours.... Tea, home-made cake, biscuits £3.50. Table games now available!
OTHER EVENTS AT THE ABINGDON ARMS		
Wed 6 Mar	7.30pm - Pub Quiz at The Abingdon Arms	

Further information about programme on website www.bacbs.org
The Abingdon Arms info, table reservations etc, at: <http://theabingdonarms.co.uk>

FOREST HILL

News from St Nicolas Church

Please see page 5 for details of all church services during March.

Special thanks to Rev'd Emma Pennington, who came to lead our Candlemas service on 27 January, and to Ordinand Matthew Wood from Ripon College Cuddesdon, who led our January Choral Evensong.

Special services in March include an evening service on Ash Wednesday, (6 March) to which everyone in the Four Parishes is welcome, and a Mothering Sunday service at 11am on 31 March, at which posies of flowers will be distributed. Don't forget the clocks go forward on this day!

Daffodil Day, Sunday 31 March 2 - 4.30pm

This annual opportunity to visit the private grounds of Shotover House is not to be missed. Holloways Auctioneers will be attending again this year to provide expert valuations of your antiques and collectables in return for a nominal fee. Gifts of cakes and produce to sell on the day are most welcome, please contact Jane Walker on 01865 872399.

Church Electoral Roll and APCM

In accordance with the Church Representation Rules, 2019 is the year in which an entirely new Church Electoral Roll must be prepared in advance of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April. The completed Roll will be displayed on the notice board in the Church porch for two weeks prior to the **APCM which will be held on Wednesday 10 April at 6pm in St Nicolas Church**. If you would like to become a new Member of the Roll, please contact Pat Fraser on 01865 875679 for more information.

Lincoln College Choir, Sunday 3 March 3pm

The choir, ahead of a Lenten tour to New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut, will be performing the *Mass for Five Voices* by William Byrd and works by British composers for the season of Lent. This is the first of a series of early spring concerts at St Nicolas, each lasting around 45 mins and followed by tea and cake.

Sunday Afternoon Concerts at St Nicolas in March and April

Further musical treats in store at St Nicolas this spring include Tomas Luis de Victoria's hauntingly beautiful *Requiem* on 17 March followed on 24 March by JS Bach's Cello Suite No. 3, paired with rarely performed motets by John Milton (father of the poet).

After a break for Daffodil Day on 31 March, there are two further concerts in April: an exploration of sung chorales with a selection of organ choral preludes on 7 April and Pergolesi's much loved *Stabat Mater* on 15 April. All concerts are at 3pm with tea and cake afterwards. More details at www.stnicolasforesthill.org.

Forest Hill with Shotover Parish Council

Public Meeting, 21 March

The Parish Council were awarded CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money after the housing development at Bayswater Farm. CIL money can be used to provide or improve infrastructure, and to pay for the operation and maintenance of this infrastructure.

The Parish Council are keen to hear from the parish on ideas for this. We will therefore be holding a **Public Meeting on 21 March at 7pm in Forest Hill Village Hall** to discuss this. All are welcome. Look out for posters and flyers nearer the time.

The Parish Council continues to work with local villages and action groups in respect of the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway and the new draft South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2034. The Parish Council have made a formal response to the local plan that will be submitted with the plan to the government for inspection. An update on the plan can be found at www.southoxon.gov.uk/newlocalplan

Current Agendas and Minutes are posted on the notice boards outside the Village Hall and at the end of Mickle Way. Archive Agendas and Minutes can be found on the website.

The website address is: www.parish-council.com/foresthillwithshotover/

You can contact Helen Cross, the Parish Council Clerk, tel: 0844 884 3328 or email address: theclerk@foresthillwithshotover-pc.org.uk

Forest Hill Sports and Social Club

FHSSC is starting a 'Community Kids Club' for children of primary school age (accompanied by parents or carers).

The club will run monthly in the village hall from 2 - 4pm on the following dates:

9 March - 13 April - 11 May - 8 June - 13 July

The club will offer a range of activities each month. The charge will be £2.50 per child, which will include squash and a snack. Contact Lisa Wiggins (tel: 07407 190575 or email :fhsandsc@gmail.com) for more information.

Donations of toys, board games etc. would be welcome.

Social activities for other age groups are also in the pipeline - watch out for announcements in this newsletter and on the We Love Forest Hill & Stanton St John Facebook page.



The poster features five colorful silhouettes of children in various active poses at the top: a girl in a pink dress, a boy in a blue shirt, a boy in a green shirt holding a ball, a girl in a yellow dress, and a boy in a black shirt. Below these is the title 'Forest Hill Community Kids Club' in large, bold, green letters. The event details are listed in blue text: 'Saturday, 9th March 2019', 'Forest Hill Village Hall', '2—4pm', and '£2.50 per child*'. A note states 'price includes refreshments' and '*parents must take responsibility for their own children.' On the left side, there are colorful words: 'Games' (purple), 'Crafts' (yellow), 'Cooking' (pink), 'Fun' (blue), and 'Play' (orange). On the bottom right, there is a silhouette of two boys sitting on the ground.

**Forest Hill
Community Kids Club**

Saturday, 9th March 2019
Forest Hill Village Hall
2—4pm
£2.50 per child*
price includes refreshments
*parents must take responsibility for their own children.

Games
Crafts
Cooking
Fun
Play
Friends

HORTON-cum-STUDLEY

News from St Barnabas Church

Please see page 5 for details of all church services during March.

The Church Electoral Roll :notice from the Parochial Church Council

The **Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 7 April 2019 at 11.45am in St Barnabas Church.** For you 'to have a voice' at the meeting or to be eligible to be elected to an office you need to be on the church's Electoral Roll (not to be confused with the Parliamentary Electoral Register). Each year the Electoral Roll needs to be prepared or revised ahead of the meeting. This year a completely new Roll will be prepared. No names will be carried forward to the new Roll.

You qualify to be on the Electoral Roll of the Parish of Horton-cum-Studley if you are:

- o aged 16 years or over
- o baptised
- o A lay member of the Church of England
- o Either resident in the parish, or for the previous six months have habitually attended public worship in the parish.

Everyone who wishes to be on the Electoral Roll must complete a new enrolment form by Saturday 23 March 2019 and send it to Colin Jenkins, Electoral Roll Officer, 3 Mill Lane, Horton-cum-Studley, OX33 1DH, email colinjenkins@freeuk.com

Tearfund Service and Lunch, Sunday 10 March

The Tearfund service will be at 11am followed by the Tearfund lunch. This year it will be by kind invitation, at the home of David and Julia Slingo. We would therefore ask, if you would like to join us, that you kindly register your interest in advance with Julia jhslingo@gmail.com or Lisa lisamynheer@gmail.com (tel: 01865 351340) so that we have an idea of numbers.

Our contributions to Tearfund are enabling Ethiopian Christians to organise people from poor families into self-help groups. They work mainly with women from the poorest families in urban areas who require support in literacy, education and training on HIV, health, hygiene and sanitation.

Mothering Sunday

Mothering Sunday is 31 March; all ladies attending the service will receive a plant.

Horton cum Studley Gardening Club

The snow has gone and we have had some fine crisp sunny days - perfect for getting out into the garden to do some winter pruning or dividing congested clumps of snowdrops. Early daffodils are flowering and tulips pushing up- spring is in the air.

Vivienne Hayday will be talking to us about the Women's Farm and Garden Association on 19 March at 8pm in the Village Hall. Our full programme, including details of forthcoming outing, can be found at www.horton-cum-studley.org.uk/community/clubs/. Visitors are welcome to our meetings. If you would like to know more about the Gardening Club, please contact the chairman, Susan Burge on 01865 351310.

Horton-cum-StudleyParish Council

This year's Annual Spring Clean will be from 22 to 24 March. Bags, gloves Hi-Viz Jackets etc will be available from Kimber. Please return bag and equipment to Kimber House once you have finished.

Thanks to Barbara Jewell and David Slingo who have been working on a resilience plan for the village. This will cover what villagers should do in the event of an emergency such as a prolonged power cut. The plan will be published on the website and posted in the new noticeboards which have now been fitted into the bus shelters

Unfortunately the planned visit from Oxfordshire Highways to discuss speeding in the village and traffic calming measures was cancelled due to snow, but will be rescheduled. We are also working with Oxfordshire Highways to get new Deer signage in place. Please remember to log pot holes via the website at <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>, via Highways Customer Service Centre on 0345 310 1111 or email Highway.Enquiries@Oxfordshire.gov.uk.

The Parish Council meets every second Thursday of the month in the Millennium Village Hall at 7.30pm. Public Participation is always welcome as we value your input to help us to understand village issues.

Women's Institute

This month's meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 March at 7.45pm in the Millennium Hall. It will be our Annual General Meeting and we do encourage all members to attend. This is the chance you have to express your views on how our WI is run and offer ideas for any improvements. After the meeting we will have a social time when wine and nibbles will be served.

Otmoor Challenge, Saturday 8 June

Preparations are well underway for the 40th annual Otmoor Challenge on Saturday 8 June 2019. We already have entries for the half-marathon, so if you want to save yourself £3.00, get your entry form from our website - www.otmoorchallenge.co.uk - and get committed to your preparations.

There will be two new trophies this year and prizes to match for runners, both male and female, in the Veterans Over-60 age group. As it is the 40th year, a one-off prize will be awarded to the 40th runner to cross the finish line, complementing our normal Ogden Trophy for the 100th finisher.

Frances Cox is well advanced in planning for the fete, but can always use more help. If you can offer, please contact her on frances.cox16@gmail.com or via the village Facebook pages. We also need a volunteer to run the bar on the day - if you can help, please contact Andrew Pennington, the chairman, on 01865 358800.

Make sure that you have the date - **Saturday 8 June 2019** in your diaries and we look forward to seeing you there.

Andrew Pennington

The Enclosure of Otmoor and the Otmoor Riots

The suffering of the people of the Otmoor Towns

A talk by Nigel Lambert

St Andrew's Church Oddington, 7pm Monday 25 March

Admission free but donations to the Church Tower Repair Fund welcome

Oxford-Cambridge Expressway: Horton-cum-Studley Expressway Group

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) now has an oral hearing at the High Court on 20 February regarding the fact that Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) were not completed prior to corridor selection.

On 28 January Oxford City Council voted unanimously against the proposed Ox-Cam Expressway. Oxfordshire County Council now has a similar motion planned for 2 April. This is a great opportunity for you to lobby your County Councillor to vote against the Expressway and to lobby your District Councillors to get a similar motion on their agenda. Contact details can be found below

Consultation on Introducing the Oxfordshire Plan to 2050 is now open until 25 March. You can give feedback on "the issues the Oxfordshire Plan should deal with, a vision for the plan and a series of objectives and aspirations to guide the plan to 2050". More information at <https://oxfordshireplan.inconsult.uk/consult.ti>

As you are aware, Highways England are currently looking at different route options for the proposed Expressway and will announce a shortlist of routes for public consultation in Autumn 2019. They are still gathering information to add to the route shortlisting process. We are reviewing further information we can submit to Highways England and have been in touch with Parish Councils in the area to encourage them to do this also. We are waiting to hear Highways England's deadline for submission of information. If you have any thoughts on useful, factual information which could help inform Highways England and protect Otmoor, Bernwood and beyond, please contact olivia_field@hotmail.com.

As Jesse Norman MP refused to confirm Otmoor is safe from the Expressway, it remains vitally important to raise awareness and maintain a visual reminder that we are still willing to fight to protect our countryside. So, it is disappointing that more than 6 of our new signs have been removed. We would be grateful if anyone who has removed a sign could return it to the bus shelter at the bottom of Horton Hill (in HcS) where they can be collected.

Weekly updates from the HcS Expressway Group are available at <http://www.horton-cum-studley.org.uk/>. Please keep in touch with developments and follow the links which explain how to make your voice heard on this issue, or contact Olivia Field olivia_field@hotmail.com for more information.

STANTON ST JOHN

St John the Baptist Church

Please see page 5 for details of all church services during March.

Church Electoral Roll and APCM

The Stanton **APCM will be held on Monday 1 April in Stanton Village Hall at 7pm.** Anyone who is on the church electoral roll is entitled to attend.

2019 is the year in which an entirely new Church Electoral Roll must be prepared in advance of the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting in April. Everyone who wishes to be on the Electoral Roll must complete a new enrolment form. The contact for Stanton is Sue Baker: susanjbaker24@gmail.com

Film Night

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Stanton Film night on 16 February, to Jamie Brown for coordinating the event, and to all the other people who helped. What an enjoyable evening! It was lovely to see a packed Village Hall. £460.60 was raised for Stanton Church. A questionnaire will shortly be emailed to everyone who came, to find out your views of the evening and to help plan for future films.

Shotover Singers Concert, Sat 30 March at 7.15pm

‘Songs of Love’ concert in Stanton Church. Admission free. Donations towards repair of the church roof and stonework gratefully received. Contact : susanjbaker24@gmail.com for more info. See also page 8.

Stanton St John Community Café

We look forward to welcoming you for coffee, cake and a chat, £2.50 per adult, children free, from 10.30 - 12.00 on 1 March. Other dates for your diary are: 5 April - 3 May - 7 June - 5 July

Everyone is welcome. Please come along. For further information or to volunteer to help please contact Caroline Hall 07826 514843 / Louise Waite 07815 539461

Stanton St John Annual Litter Blitz, Sat 2 March at 10.30am

Come and join us for a couple of hours and make a difference to the local verges and hedgerows. We'll provide a litter picker and high viz jacket and the bags. You should wear stout shoes/boots and dress warmly; heavy duty gloves are also advisable. Meet at Village Hall Car Park - the more the merrier and the sooner we'll finish.

Nicholas and Sally Braithwaite: Nandsbraithwaite@btinternet.com

Stanton St John WI

Stanton St John WI's Annual Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 19 March at 7.30pm** in the village hall. Apart from the business of elections we will have an entertaining evening and a Bring and Buy sale in aid of ACWW.

Stanton St John Parish Council

We are pleased to say that Stanton St John is getting a defibrillator. It will be located on the outside of the village hall, just to the left of the front door. The cabinet is being fitted on Friday 1 March 2019, with the actual defibrillator being installed just after that. We are also in the process of arranging an awareness training course, hopefully to be scheduled in April, but you do not need to have received training to use the defibrillator, you simply dial 999 and they will talk you through it.

District and Parish Council elections will take place on Thursday 2 May 2019. Election notices will be displayed towards the end of March, no later than Tuesday 26 March 2019. Nominations for parish councillors may be submitted from that date until 4pm on Wednesday 3 April 2019.

Stanton St John Safari Supper Sat 8 June

More details to come nearer the time.

Ninebarrow: Concert in Stanton Church, Sat 15 June at 7pm.

Ninebarrow are a multi-award winning folk duo from Dorset who perform original songs inspired and rooted in the landscape and history of the British Isles. They also take a wide range of traditional folk songs and rework them in their own distinctive way.

There will be light refreshments available from 6pm, and if anyone would like to bring a picnic, the grounds of College house will be open from 5pm. Tickets, priced at £12.50 are now available from www.ninebarrow.co.uk and will be available shortly from the village shop. Or contact Julian Money 01865 351829.

St John the Baptist Bells Restoration Project: Update

You will be pleased to hear that the restoration work on the bells has been going very well, with no hitches, and plenty of hard work undertaken by Whites, the bellhangers, and a number of volunteers from the Guild of Church Bell Ringers. It's taken a little longer than anticipated, but we're on the home run now.

Whites have completed two phases, and are currently working on the third phase back at their workshop in Appleton. The fourth and final phase will now be completed in March, although I don't have a specific date at the time of the newsletter going to press. However, I'm anticipating completion of the project by the end of March, and certainly in time for Easter.

It won't be long now until we hear the church's 17th and 18th century bells ringing out once again, as well as hearing the clock striking the hour. More news about the bell project will be announced in future newsletters.

Paul Lansdowne, Project Leader

Hello from The Talkhouse's New Management

We have yet to introduce ourselves to the Four Parishes here at The Talkhouse so we wanted to say "hello" from the whole team: Pippa, Paul, Jennifer and George. Pippa and Paul have been running the Butcher's Arms in Headington for the last 6 years, where George and Jennifer used to be locals, and have now come up to The Talkhouse to manage.

We are really hoping to get you all excited about having a pub in Stanton St John which is committed to the local community. It has been great for all of us getting to know the locality, and everyone here.

We want to let you know about a couple of things we have going on here over the next month.

Firstly we are all going to be pitching in for the Litter Pick on Saturday 2 March. We have been speaking to Sally, who is organising the event, and have arranged for anyone who is involved to be invited up to The Talkhouse afterwards for free tea and coffee, and some homemade soup.

Secondly we have organised a local Irish Band to come and play at the pub on St. Patrick's Day (17 March), which falls on a Sunday this year. We will be having music from 6pm, so that nobody has to stay out too late on a Sunday.

So that's a quick update from us! We hope to be able to introduce ourselves and meet you all in person at some point. We've got lots of other ideas brewing and would love to discuss them with any or all of you, so do pop in for a chat if you would like to.

Cheers,

The Talkhouse Team

The Talkhouse
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Stanton St John
OX33 1EX

Email: talkhouseox33@gmail.com

Tel: 07926 249 157



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