

KBS NEWS

The Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Village News

DELIVERED MONTHLY TO EVERY HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE

Serving the community collaboratively
with the village website
www.kbsonline.org.uk

Volume 41

Number 3

April 2014

Superfast Broadband: It's as Broad as it's long

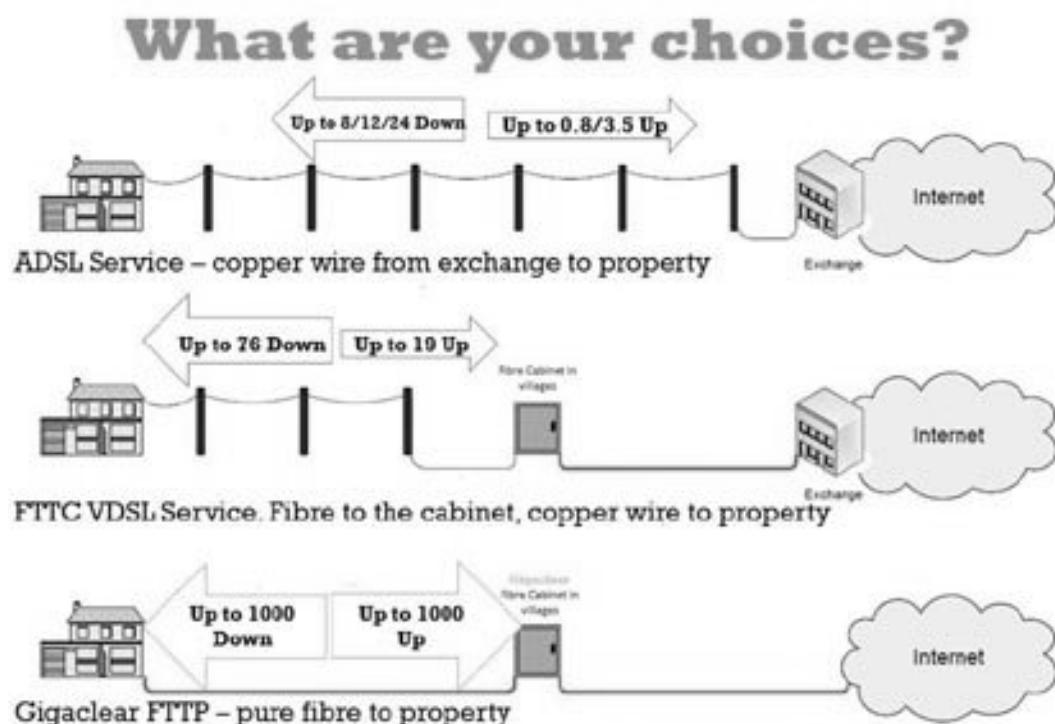
A lot has happened in the last month in the broadband world. Those of you who keep an eye on the press will have noticed stories appearing regarding the effect of broadband, or the quality of it, on the saleability and value of houses and on the desirability of villages and rural areas as places to live. There have even been reports of cases where poor broadband has led to house viewings being cancelled.

Rightmove, the online property portal, now has a button for checking the quality of broadband in the area of houses for sale and they say that prices can vary by up to 20% depending upon the answer.

In our own backyard the parish council have been working hard to keep options open for us and we are now in a position where BT Openreach are definitely going to install fibre to our road cabinets sometime in the next year.

If Gigaclear, the local pure fibre to the premises company, also install their pure fibre network in the village we will end up having a choice of not only providers but a large choice of speed and price options and, also, a choice of fibre to road cabinets and copper to the house or pure fibre all of the way to the house. (see illustration).

The pure fibre option would give us some of the best broadband available in the world but it is important to realise that this will only happen if 30% of us commits, during the next few months, to taking the Gigaclear (www.gigaclear.com) pure fibre service. Waiting to see what happens will mean that the pure fibre part won't happen. KBS Broadband Group (www.kbsbroadband.org.uk) will be holding information events in the village in



the coming weeks with the Waggon and Horses being the most likely venue. Please feel welcome to pop in and ask any questions you wish. We will be delighted to see you. *Bill Naylor. KBS Broadband Group*

**A villager's
Broadband
questions
page 18**

Last chance to enter our 'Be a Chef for a Day' competition - page 17

NEED A DOCTOR URGENTLY?

After office hours and at weekends and Bank Holidays please phone 111 if you have a requirement for urgent medical advice and assistance. (NHS Direct is no longer a phone service but offers comprehensive on-line medical advice through its website)

On phoning 111 your needs will be assessed, advice offered and arrangements made for you to see an Out Of Hours doctor if appropriate. Please do not ask to see a doctor out of hours unless you genuinely cannot wait until the surgery re-opens.

Call 999 in an emergency. Chest pains and / or shortness of breath constitute an emergency.

THE FERN HILL PRACTICE tel 01367 242407

Repeat prescriptions can be left at the Southmoor Village Post Office

The practice runs a weekly service to the Post Office delivering each Thursday at 2:30pm

Please allow 2 working days and include payment when requesting your prescription where necessary

THE WHITE HORSE MEDICAL PRACTICE tel 01367 242388

Repeat Prescriptions can be left at the Southmoor Village Post Office

The practice runs a daily service to the Post Office. Please allow 2 working days and include payment when requesting your prescription where necessary.

DISTRICT NURSE or HEALTH VISITOR 01367 240087

SOUTHMOOR CHILD HEALTH CLINIC First Friday of the month 2pm to 3pm

NEED THE POLICE? EMERGENCY ONLY: 999 NON EMERGENCY: 101

KBS News Team

Chairperson: Pat Smith 820775

Secretary: Hilary Clements 820075

Editor + Monthly Ads: Lance Bassett

Treasurer: Roy Wolfe

Annual Advertising: Kathy Fletcher.

Caroline Ashby

Distribution: Cyril Gliddon (820434) & team

kbsonline Rep: John Smith

Copy date for next issue: BEFORE Monday 21st April at 4.00pm

Please send all copy and one-off advertising by email to: editorkbsnews@googlemail.com, as a MS Word document if possible, with no formatting or tabs. It makes our work so much easier, but do not worry if you do not have access to a computer - we are happy to receive your contribution in any form! **Leave items in the boxes in the Post Office in Kingston Bagpuize or in the Southmoor Food and Wine.** These boxes will be emptied at regular intervals. Please ensure all photographs have permission of all concerned.

Please send all correspondence (other than copy and advertising contributions) to **KBS News Secretary, Hilary Clements, 3 Bellamy Close, Southmoor, OX13 5AB.** For annual box advertising please contact Kathy: adverts-kbsnews@googlemail.com **PLEASE ensure all copy is supplied with contact name, address & phone number.** KBS News reserves the right to shorten or edit any submissions if necessary where space is at a premium. All submissions must be attributed, anonymous submissions will not be printed and late copy may not be included. We are also not responsible for grammatical errors and spelling.

Beyond the Whinge - the Editor's blog

We recently had new wardrobes installed and my wife then decided she would like to have had one of the doors as a mirror. So we called in a showroom. "You'll have to call Customer Service" was the reply to the question of the mirror door. Fine, the lady gave me the number and off we went.

Some days later we happened to be outside the very showroom where we originally ordered the wardrobes. So thinking they would have all the details and be more helpful (laugh) in we went. "You'll have to call Customer Service" they said, and gave us the number. Fair enough. So I phoned Customer Service (an oxymoron if ever there was one) and the girl said she would look into it and phone me back within 48 hours. A week later I find a message on my answer phone saying she couldn't help and I should visit a showroom!

So I e-mailed the Customer Services Manager exposing the flaw in their marketing policy, and as I hadn't had a reply after a month, I wrote a letter. True this did galvanise the said person into action and I found another message on the answer phone asking me to ring her. This I did and received the usual platitudes about their system being changed etc, etc, blah, blah. I then asked for a quote for the work and without a by your leave or kiss me Hardy she eventually gave me a price that was about three quid more than the National debt. Refusing to offer any discount for my trouble and fretting and wailing. The name of this paragon of British industry? Sharps Bedrooms, buyers beware.

| April | Day | Time | What & Where (SVH = Southmoor Village Hall) | Page |
|-----------|------|--|--|------|
| Tuesday | 1st | 7.15pm for 7.30pm | Southmoor & Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club - Christine Stapley Herbs for Cooking and Remedies - SVH | 16 |
| Wednesday | 2nd | **** Food Collection & Grey Bin Collection **** | | |
| Wednesday | 2nd | 2.00pm - 4.00pm | Serendipity Over 60s Club Meeting | 6 |
| Sunday | 6th | 11.00am | Dawn Christadelphians Memorial Meeting, Swallow Room - SVH | 6 |
| Monday | 7th | Mobile Library ** 10.05am Waggon & Horses, SVH 10.45am, Bellamy CI 11.15 | | |
| Tuesday | 8th | 7.00pm | KBS Parish Council Meeting – Swallow Room, VH | 16 |
| Tuesday | 8th | Follows PC Meeting | Annual Parish Meeting - Southmoor Village Hall | 16 |
| Wednesday | 9th | **** Food Collection & Green Bin Collection & Brown Bin Collection **** | | |
| Wednesday | 9th | 7.30pm | Southmoor Village Hall AGM - Swallow Room SVH | 10 |
| Sunday | 13th | 10.00am | Sightsavers & The Rotary Club of Oxford North - Sponsored Walk - Blenheim Park | |
| Wednesday | 16th | **** Food Collection & Grey Bin Collection **** | | |
| Thursday | 17th | 7.15pm for 7.30pm | Longworth & District History Soc - 'The Last days of Charles 1' SVH | 16 |
| Thursday | 17th | 9.00am - 12.00 noon | KBS Cafe - Easter Activities | 11 |
| Friday | 18th | 2.00pm | Good Friday meditation, with hymns - St John the Baptist Church, KB | 24 |
| Sunday | 20th | 9.00am | Quiet Easter Holy Communion - St John the Baptist Church, KB | 24 |
| Sunday | 20th | 10.30am | Easter All-Age Family Communion Service - St John the Baptist Church | 24 |
| Sunday | 20th | 2.30pm | Millennium Green Easter Egg Hunt - Millennium Green | 23 |
| Monday | 21th | Mobile Library ** 10.05am Waggon & Horses, SVH 10.45am, Bellamy CI 11.15 | | |
| Monday | 21st | 4.00pm | Last Copy Date / Time for KBS News May 2014 Edition | 2 |
| Thursday | 24th | **** Food Collection & Green Bin Collection & Brown Bin Collection **** | | |
| Friday | 25th | | Kingston Bagpuize & Southmoor Bowls Club Quiz Night - Oxford Road | 22 |
| Saturday | 26th | 7.00pm - doors open | Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group - Murder Mystery Evening - SVH | 17 |
| Wednesday | 30th | **** Food Collection & Grey Bin Collection **** | | |
| May | | | | |
| Wednesday | 7th | 2.00pm - 4.00pm | Serendipity Over 60s Club Meeting | |
| Sunday | 11th | 8.30am - 12.00 noon | Kingston Bagpuize Cricket Club Car Boot Sale - Sports field Abingdon Rd | 10 |
| Friday | 17th | | Southmoor Pre-School Bags2school collection | 10 |

**** The Mobile Library Service** - see dates above. All types of books are available, including books in large print and an audio cassette for the partially sighted. Music cassettes also available. Reservations accepted for a small fee.

Regular Events each Month

| What | Where | Day | Time |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Apple Quilters | Southmoor Village Hall | 2nd & 4th Monday | 9.30am - 12am |
| Church Youth Group | 1 Oxford Road | Sunday Term Time | 6.00pm - 7.30pm |
| French for Fun | Southmoor VH Swallow Rm | Wednesday | 9.30am - 11.00am |
| IYENGAR Yoga class | Longworth VH from Jan 8 2013 | Tuesday Term Time Only | 11.00am - 12.30pm |
| KB Drama Group | St John the Baptist Church Hall | Tuesday (except below) | 7.30pm |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| KB Drama Group | Southmoor Village Hall | 3rd Tuesday each month | 7.30pm |
| KB & S Bowls Club 'Roll Up' | Oxford Road, Kingston Bagpuize | Tuesdays & Thursdays | 1.30pm |
| KB & S Cafe | Methodist Chapel | Thursday | 9.00am - 12 noon |
| KB & S Gardening Club | Southmoor Village Hall | 1st Tuesday from Feb | 7.15pm for 7.30pm |
| KB & S Health Walk | Leaves Southmoor VH 10.45am | Tuesday | 10.30am - 11.30am |
| KB & S 14+ Drop In Centre | Methodist Church Hall | Friday Term Time Only | 7.30pm - 9.30pm |
| Kingsmoor Community Club | Hinton Waldrist Village Hall | Tues, Wed, Fri | 10.00am - 3.00pm |
| 1st Kingston Bagpuize Brownies | Southmoor Village Hall | Wednesday | 5.15pm - 6.45pm |
| 1st Longworth Beavers | The Scout Hut Faringdon Road | Thursday | 6.00pm - 7.15pm |
| 1st Longworth Cubs | | Tuesday | 7.00pm - 8.30pm |
| 1st Longworth Explorers | | Wednesday | 7.30pm - 9.00pm |
| 1st Longworth Scouts | | Thursday | 7.30pm - 9.00pm |
| Nordic Walking Classes | Millennium Green | Saturday | 8.30am - 9.30am |
| Pilates Matwork Classes | John Blandy School | Monday | 7.00pm - 9.10pm |
| Serendipity Over 60s Club Meeting | Southmoor VH Swallow Rm | 2nd Wednesday | 2pm - 4pm |
| 1st Southmoor Guides | Southmoor Village Hall | Wednesday | 7.00pm - 8.30pm |
| Southmoor Baby & Toddler Group | Southmoor Village Hall | Friday Term Time Only | 10am - 11.30am |
| Southmoor Exercise & Dance | Southmoor Village Hall | Wednesday Evenings | 7.45 Exercise 8.45 Dance |
| Southmoor Karate Club | Southmoor Village Hall | Sunday | 10am - 11.30am |
| Southmoor Rainbows | Methodist Church Hall | Tues Term Time Only | 5.45pm - 6.45pm |
| KB & S Womens Institute | Southmoor Village Hall | 2nd Tuesday | 7.30pm |
| Zumba | Southmoor Village Hall | Monday | 8.15pm |

Advertising in the KBS News

If you would like to place an **occasional** advert in the KBS News please Email: editorkbsnews@googlemail.com

Cost for occasional adverts for "Local Not for profit" organisations: Back Page £24 Inside Full page £20

Inside Part Page % of page used Min £5 Personal Small Ads (Items for Sale) % of Page Minimum £5

Cost for occasional adverts for "Commercial / Business organisations"

Back Page £110

Inside Full page £90

Inside Part Page % of page used Min £10

If you would like to place an annual advert in the KBS News please Email: adverts-kbsnews@googlemail.com

KINGSTON BAGUIZE CHURCH NOTICES

<http://kingstonbaguizechurch.wordpress.com>



| | | |
|------------------------|---------|---|
| Sunday 6th April | 9.00am | Holy Communion Speaker: Revd Joe Cotterill |
| | 10.30am | Morning Worship Speaker: Revd Michael Sanders |
| Sunday 13th April | 9.00am | Holy Communion Revd David Pickering |
| <i>Palm Sunday</i> | 10.30am | All-Age Service Speaker: Revd David Pickering |
| Monday 14th April | 8.00pm | Compline (in the Church Room) Speaker: TBC |
| Thursday 17th April | 7.30pm | Holy Communion Speaker: TBC |
| <i>Maundy Thursday</i> | | |
| Friday 18th April | 2pm | Good Friday Meditation Leader: Revd Joe Cotterill |
| <i>Good Friday</i> | | |
| Sunday 20th April | 9.00am | Holy Communion Revd Joe Cotterill |
| <i>Easter Sunday</i> | 10.30am | Family Easter Communion Revd David Pickering |
| Sunday 27th April | 9.00am | Holy Communion Revd David Pickering |
| | 10.30am | Questions of Life Speaker: Miss Felicity Gunn |

Coffee and biscuits after all services – a good time to chat and make new friends.

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS: PALM SUNDAY EASTER GARDEN: After the Palm Sunday All-Age Service the children are invited to make the Easter Garden for the Church

GOOD FRIDAY MEDITATION: We are very fortunate to have the Revd Joe Cotterill lead our Good Friday Meditation once again, sharing with us the benefit of 97 years of experience and wisdom! Strongly recommended, it will also include Good Friday hymns.

EASTER SUNDAY: We have a special All-age Family Communion at 10.30am on Easter Sunday. Children are invited to join our “Easter garden on a plate” competition: make a garden on a plate for Easter and bring it to the church room before the service. After the service: all who enter will get a prize, and the winner gets a box of chocolates. There will also be an Easter Egg hunt for children in the churchyard afterwards.

CHURCH GROUPS: We have a range of groups for adults and children. Call David on 820451 or Hazel on 821358 for more information. Do contact our Vicar, The Revd David Pickering (820451), re baptisms, weddings, funerals or pastoral care (on any day of the week except Saturdays).

Fyfield Chapel (Evangelical)

www.fyfieldchapel.org.uk

Sunday Service: 11.00 am

Crèche and Sunday School

Communion: 2nd Sunday in month

Evening Tea & Fellowship

5.30 pm 1st Sunday in month

Home Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

8.00 pm 3rd Friday in month

(for details please email

or call 01865-769473)

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**BUCKLAND AND FARINGDON PARISH CENTRED AT
BLESSED HUGH CHURCH FARINGDON**

Parish Priest: Fr Leslie Adams, 1 Coxwell Road, Faringdon, SN7 7EB

Tel: 01367 243510, email: blessedhughfaringdon@yahoo.com,

Masses: Sunday One Mass at 9.00am. Weekly Masses: Tuesday and Thursday 9.30am preceded by Morning Prayer at 9.15am. Details of

Masses on Holy Days and of Reconciliation - please refer to the Parish

Newsletter available at Blessed Hugh Church or from the Parish

Website: <http://www.blessedhugh.org.uk/>



Oxfordshire Fitness - Nordic Walking

If you can Walk, you can Nordic Walk!

Everyone can benefit from Nordic walking, it is easy to learn, is affordable and suitable for people of all ages and fitness levels. Our Nordic Walks are a fun, sociable way to increase fitness and burn calories!

Lots of chatting and laughs along the way, you'll be

exercising without realising it! Nordic Walking uses 90% of your skeletal muscles and burns up to 46% more calories than just walking, what's more because it is a weight bearing exercise it strengthens bones and reduces the risk of osteoporosis.

What is there not to like ?

Wednesdays: 6.15pm - 7.15pm East Hanney **Saturdays:** 8.30am - 9.30am Southmoor

Additional days and times coming soon.

For more information or to book a free taster session call

Lisa 07885635367 or email - lisa@oxfordshirefitness.co.uk





VILLAGE VOICES

A note of thanks to all the young pianists who performed so wonderfully on March 7th and grateful thanks to all those who came to support them - a full house! £400+ was raised for the church's Bell Tower Appeal and for CLIC Sargent Care for young people with cancer. *Jennifer Charlton*

I would like to endorse the thanks to those hardy soles who recently re-gravelled the path from Fir Tree Close through to the recreation ground.

As 80 year olds with walking sticks, it was a real pleasure to be able to walk along this path without having to try and straddle the muddy puddles for much of its length.

As we try to walk each day and regularly use the public footpaths, it would be a considerable help if the path from Draycott Road to the bridge at the end of the Waggon Path were accorded the same treatment, where one also has had to try and avoid both the mud and roots as well as the many piles of dog excrement. Thank you all!! *Don Viney*

Villager's Viewpoint – the KBS Cafe

Jenny Bone, Anne Curtis and I set up the KBS Café as a Church enterprise approximately eight years ago. It was originally based in the St John the Baptist Church Room which is a cosy and attractive setting. I can still remember our first Thursday morning café; we waited nervously to see if anyone would arrive. Villagers did – and they are still coming!

Anne and I stood down after a couple of years but Mel Gulliford and Carole Watts stepped in to fill our shoes and they did an amazing job. Mel has recently moved on to something new, but Carole is still there and her cakes have become famous locally, my favourite being the chocolate, almond and apricot jam cake which is ridiculously decadent but makes a wonderful breakfast treat once in a while. Many other home-made cakes and scones are generously donated and greatly appreciated. There is also a rota of kind volunteers who take it in turns to help each week, or when Jenny or Carole can't be there.

Jenny Bone has been faithfully running and organising the Cafe from day one. Jenny said that she loves talking to the guests and is always prepared to listen and be non judgemental if anyone wishes to talk to her at a particularly difficult time. Jenny will also offer a prayer or two if required.

The venue has changed and the cafe is now held in the Methodist Chapel opposite Crossroads Garage. This is a bigger space and the kitchen has better facilities for producing tempting bacon baps! Come wind or shine or snow it's open from 9am 'til 12pm every Thursday and it's often very busy with between 30 and 40 customers. As I work on Thursdays I don't often have the opportunity to visit, but when the school holidays arrive I head down for a 'cake fix' and company. Recently, during half term, there was a real mixture of people: retired people, mums, 'nannies', grandparents with young children and workers having a quick coffee and cake before heading off to their jobs. There's plenty of space in which the children can play and mountains of toys for them to enjoy.

It's a place to relax and chat with others. One guest said, "It's a bolt hole - a place to come and escape from the trials and tribulations of everyday life at home - a safe place to come." Another guest explained that she enjoys meeting people there and chatting about what's going on in the village.

If you haven't yet had the chance or inclination to visit the cafe then I hope this may persuade you it's worth a visit. To all the regulars – keep on visiting and enjoying the food and friendship. Jenny Weaving



Don't forget to send us your photographs for inclusion in the News. We want photographs of villagers holding their copy of KBS News from all over the planet during the forthcoming holiday season. All will be published and the one from furthest away will win a bottle of something nice. Also, why not share your party moments as our Chair Pat Smith did, seen here (centre right) celebrating her recent birthday at the Chequers in Charney Bassett with other ladies who dine. Come on all you photographers, get clicking.

Village Notice Board

Part-time Vacancy

The parish litter picker is retiring and leaves a vacancy for the part-time position. Would suit retired person working five hours a week. £8 an hour. Contact Parish Clerk John Melling on 01865 820867 or email: johnmelling765@btinternet.com

NOTES FROM THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY'S PARISH TRANSPORT REPRESENTATIVES

The County Council is making a 50% cut in the bus subsidy over a period of five years – from £4m to £2m. There is no immediate prospect of any cuts to existing services – such as the X15. The overall strategy to 2018 has yet to be agreed and publicised so we may see some changes to the timetables in the course of 2015.

It is going to be some time before we see Real Time Information displayed at any bus stop in the village or elsewhere along the A420. Apparently Stagecoach buses are not yet fitted with the technology and do not expect the 66 service buses to be updated for another eighteen months. Apparently there is so much 'Section 106' money sloshing about from new developments in the Vale that the updating of existing bus stops, or indeed the provision of new bus stops at Rimes Close/School Lane, should not prove any obstacle once the technology is available - The County's approved maximum distance between stops in built-up areas is 400 yards – so it is quite possible that we may see new bus shelters at the East end of the village at some time in the future.

Don't hold your breath.....

Ian Charlton, Parish Transport Representative.

HELP REQUIRED

It won't be long before the sound of leather on willow will be heard again from the Cricket Ground but before that the club need to get the square and the outfield prepared for the long season ahead. The first League games start on the 10th May but pre-season matches will be happening in April so if you are able to give a hand over the next few weeks please give us a call. Any knowledge of Cricket Square preparation or general pitch maintenance would be great but if you just consider yourself a willing pair of hands, with a few hours to spare, please get in touch - NOW. Call Dick Giles on 07960 418247 or Email: richard_giles@btconnect.com

VILLAGE VACANCY

Could you provide a timely response to make safe and tidy damage to Parish Council property such as bus shelters and playground equipment before the manufacturer is able to repair? An hourly rate will be agreed to cover the occasional demands on your time.

If interested, contact the Clerk on 01865 820867.

Kingsmoor Community Club at Hinton Waldrist

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR KINGSMOOR CLUB

Kingsmoor Club needs a volunteer on Friday mornings. You could share with a friend and do alternate weeks! We welcome a man or a lady, we have some male members who like to chat and play scrabble or card games. Also our cook needs the potatoes peeled! Our numbers have increased and so we do need volunteer help to continue running the club with all the activities we like to offer. Don't be shy.....we know our new volunteer is out there waiting to be asked. Just ring on 01865 820166.

Gwyne Diment

SERENDIPITY OVER 60'S CLUB

Members enjoyed a Beetle Drive which ended with a winner and a booby prize !! The main thing about this friendly little group is that we all enjoy a chat and a giggle and coffee and cake. Each member brings a wrapped raffle prize and items for our sales table which are sold for funds, for just £2 per month which pays for the hall, and everyone goes home with a gift.

Thanks to Lynda for a brilliant homemade iced birthday cake for a certain lady, which was enjoyed by us all.

OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON WEDNESDAY 2nd APRIL (which is a week earlier than usual). New members always welcome. Pat 820775

Dawn Christadelphians Memorial Meeting, Swallow Room, KBS Village Hall, Sunday 6th April 11am. Visitors welcome to observe. Sunday School for 6 to 12 years. Or come for refreshments 12.30pm.



FEEL LIKE EATING OUT TONIGHT? No: 13 The Greyhound Besselsleigh

The Greyhound would seem the place to be judging by the number of diners that were housed in this 400 year old eatery on a Saturday night.

The four of us were quickly shown to our table which was disappointingly close to the bar with the corresponding annoyance of people pushing through the rather tight space. The table for four people was also rather small. However we sat with our pre-meal drinks and waited for the menu. Now I have had holidays shorter than the time it took for any service

and we would probably still be waiting now if we hadn't accosted a passing waitress.

Still, that all said the evening took a turn for the better at this point when the menu did arrive and the choice was excellent. I passed on a starter and went straight for the Pig Cheeks in Cider Gravy.

'An excellent choice sir if I may say' to coin a phrase, as the meat was so tender it fell apart as the knife approached. Succulent, tasty and cooked to perfection, the dish I was assured is a Greyhound favourite and rightly so.

Our party also had the haddock and the bride ordered the rather interesting Roast Parsnip, Chestnut and Spinach Suet Pudding which I was informed tasted as good as it looked.

Followed by an acceptable sticky toffee pudding, the meal ended with a bill equivalent to under £65 per couple, about right for food of this calibre and including two bottles of wine and starter drinks.

I have known the Greyhound since the days when it was the mecca for the jacket potato and over the years it has had numerous owners and landlords, some good some not so, it's therefore satisfying to note the establishment is now a credible alternative for a good meal out. The front of house needs to up its game but the chef certainly gets my vote. *Eton Lovett.*



THE KBS NEWS EASTER WINE LIST

This month we decided to try wines from Morrisons as they have opened a new supermarket at Carterton. We were pleasantly surprised at the selection available, and there were different selections of wine under £5.00 and under £8.00 as well as a more expensive range.

The white wine is French Alsace Gewurtztraminer 2012, £7.99, bottled especially for Morrisons.

Gewurtztraminer may sound a bit of a mouthful, but it is a cracking medium sweet wine from the Alsace in France. What is a mouthful is the delicious hint of spice and juicy mango that goes so well with a fruity pudding or even an Easter Egg! This wine is also a wonderful aperitif, but should be served well chilled.

The red wine is a French Bourgogne Cote Chalonnaise 2012, made from the Pinot Noir grape, reduced at the moment from £9.99 to £6.99. This soft spicy Burgundy is a treat, full of raspberry, violet and cherry flavours.

Hold up a glass of this Burgundy and you'll be dazzled by its beautiful rich, dark purple colour, the flavour is dense with pinot noir, and would be ideal to accompany Easter Sunday Lunch. Cheers, *The Wine Quartet*



A Message from Neighbourhood Watch

We always advise anyone who suspects a scam, or who has been the victim of a scam, to report it to the police on www.actionfraud.police.uk or 0300 123 2040. However, it is always better to take preventative action where possible and it is good to know what to look for to avoid being taken in, as well as to advise friends and family members when necessary.

The charity Think Jessica (www.thinkjessica.com) provides a lot of useful advice about scams. Their 12-page booklet, 'Scam mail is blackmail', is particularly useful and covers: lottery and prize draw scams, clairvoyant scams, catalogue scams, courier scams, bank / building society scams and more. You can order a free hard copy of this booklet by writing to:

Think Jessica, PO Box 4442, Chesterfield S44 9AS, (Please enclose a 2nd class stamp) Or by emailing advice@thinkjessica.com.

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

Since last reporting in the KBSNews the Village Hall has experienced a brisk increase in bookings and the committee are pleased to welcome the Brownies and Guides to the hall for their regular meetings, along with a Keep-Fit class meeting on a Thursday evening. After a short break the Drama Group is back with it's regular slot on Tuesday. The Drama Group are now busy rehearsing for the Murder Mystery, due to take place on 26th April. Various other meetings have taken place since the New Year relating to the recent building developments, scheduled or proposed, in the area.

Hall Improvements: Recent improvements have been made to the hall lighting and CCTV security. A new floor covering is to be laid in the area leading to the Swallow Room.

AGM: On Wednesday 9th April the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall will take place at 7.30 pm in the Swallow Room. This important meeting for the future management of the hall is open to all residents of the village, and an opportunity to 'Have Your Say' in the future running of the Village Hall. The meeting will include a report on the accounts by the Treasurer, and the election of a Chairman and committee for the next 12 months. A glass of wine and nibbles will be available following the meeting for those who attend. For further details contact the Secretary Jane Carter on 820354 or email jane.alston.carter@hotmail.co.uk Ron Green

Pricking out for the Village Show

Last month I promised an article on pricking out. Not wanting to disappoint, here it is. Hopefully by now (now being some 4-6 weeks after sowing your tomato seeds), the seedlings should have produced their second set of leaves. This means that they are large enough to prick out and pot on, giving the young plants more nutrients and space to grow. You will need your seedlings, some small pots and some potting compost plus a pencil. Using the pencil, loosen the soil around the plant and, holding onto one of the lower leaves, gently lever the roots up, trying not to damage them as you lift. Again taking your trusty and now slightly sullied pencil, make a small hole in a pot of potting compost. Still holding the leaf, work the roots into the hole, gently firming the soil around the stem of the seedling. The plant should be at the same depth as when it was in the seed tray. Leave somewhere warm (not outside, unless you have a greenhouse).

If you find you have too many seedlings for your pots, offer some to a friend so they can enter some tomatoes into the Village Show, too!

After potting on, don't forget to water, and keep the soil moist over the next couple of months - after that they'll be ready to plant out.

Next month I will cover how to cheat if you've not done either of the first two months' activities...Paul Gill

Kingston Bagpuize Cricket Club - Car Boot Sales * 11 May 8.30am till 12noon * Kingston Bagpuize Sportsfield, Abingdon Road
Sellers £5 per car * Buyers 50p per car * Refreshments & facilities available * More info from Mandy 07884 393613

SOUTHMOOR PRE-SCHOOL

Pre-School has been a hive of activity over the past few weeks. Last half term the children took advantage of the weather and enjoyed playing with the snow - both indoors and out! We have investigated hot & cold temperatures, snowy activities and how to keep safe in the snow. There was a definite 'medical' theme in the role play area, which has been a vets and a doctors surgery with one or two staff members being 'patients'; having various plasters, bandages and medicines administered.

We are now offering the children the opportunity to take part in cooking activities every week. In addition, the children also have access to musical instruments throughout the day so that they can make music whenever they like as well as the planned sessions where an adult takes the lead. Oxfordshire County Council gave us a brand new storage trolley full of wooden blocks which the children love. They have spent many hours building towers, railways, parks, balancing walkways and more. The children absolutely love the new art trolley which was bought with fundraising. As well as our usual 'focused activities' the children are able to help themselves to a wide range of art and craft materials whenever they like. This has already resulted in some fantastic models and pictures. It is great to see the children using their imagination and being so creative.

We are a charity we rely on fundraising and collecting vouchers to get more equipment for the children, so please could you bring all your Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers into Pre-School. The collection box is inside Pre-School so please ring the bell, they will be gratefully received. If you're having a spring clear out of your wardrobe, Pre-school are having their second bag2school collection on Friday 17th May.

Following our AGM in March the face of the committee has changed greatly. We would like to welcome Jane Tidy (Chair), Geoff Clough (Treasurer) and Kate Rick (Secretary) into their new roles. The current committee would also like to take this opportunity to thank Suzanne Elliott, Melanie Singleton, Eleanor Loutzenhiser and Debbie Didcock, for all their hard work and dedication to the preschool over the past few years. Marie Siviter





Mark Mathews listens to questions from villagers

Questions flood in to Thames Water

The March meeting of the Parish Council with members of the public was addressed by two executives from Thames Water on the current situation regarding flooding, sewage and water pressure in regard to the new housing developments. Mark Mathews, Town Planning Manager and Brendan Hegerty of the Asset Management Team gave an upbeat address to the meeting and dispelled several myths about storage tanks and insufficient foul water disposal. They assured the village they were monitoring the situation and the developers had to adhere to the schemes approved by Thames Water before building commenced and have them in place before any of the new houses were occupied. They also stated the water pressure should not be affected and any significant drop in the pressure should be reported to them immediately.

At the above meeting three residents (Mr & Mrs C Cox – 14 Blandy Avenue & Mr A Warwick – 10 Blandy Avenue) asked for reassurances that Blandy Avenue will not be affected by the new developments and Thames Water promised to provide a written response to the Parish. The following has been received from Brendan Hegerty in the Thames Water Asset Investment team: 'Detailed modelling has been carried out which identifies the impact of new development on the foul sewerage system throughout Southmoor and Kingston Bagpuize. To manage the increase in flows from these developments, strategic improvements and reinforcements to the network have been identified and will be constructed to ensure there is no detriment to existing customers in Blandy Avenue or indeed at any other part of the catchment.' So now you know - Ed

KBS CAFE @ SOUTHMOOR



The KBS Café continues to be busy. We are open on Thursday mornings from 9am until 12 noon, in the Methodist church on the corner of Faringdon Road and Hanney Road, opposite the Crossroads Garage. We serve Fair Trade beverages, and squash, biscuits, home-made cakes and scones. We also have some gluten-free and dairy-free options. There are lots of toys and some colouring books and crayons for the children, and newspapers and magazines for the grownups.

On April 17th we'll be having Easter activities for the children and Delyth Hallion-Gammon will be coming to tell them the Easter story.

The KBS Café is the perfect place to meet old friends and make new ones. We look forward to seeing you. If anyone needs a lift please contact one of us on the numbers below.

"We are friends you haven't yet met."

Jenny Bone (820368) Carole Watts (821710)



WORDS OF WISDOM

You'll never plough a field by turning it over in your mind. *Irish proverb*

Keith's Kartoon Komment Town v Country

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Ron's Green Finger Gardening Tips for March

Now that the clocks have gone forward with lighter evenings and brighter days hopefully this will help us forget the grim wet days of the winter and make us eager to get out and do something in the garden. The relatively mild and wet winter sadly may result in an increase in the number of garden pests and diseases, in particular the dreaded Slug. Slugs above ground decimate young leafy plants and below ground cause damage to early root crops. So consider using Nemaslug and/or Nemasys. These naturally occurring microscopic nematodes destroy garden pests including - Carrot & Cabbage Root Fly - Leatherjackets - Caterpillars & Cutworms - Onion Fly - Ants as well as slugs. The method is to mix with water and sprinkle over the planted area using a watering can. The treatment is completely harmless to birds, hedgehogs and other wildlife, as well as pets and children.

Chitting potatoes: When considering how to chit potatoes it is important to understand that tubers need both warmth and light to start growth, so place them on a windowsill, in a warm greenhouse. The shed or garage will not do. Look for the rounded, blunt end of each seed potato tuber that has the most eyes, or buds; usually called the rose. This should face the light. Line tubers up, standing them upright in a single layer, with the rose at the top. Old egg boxes are ideal for holding tubers, because they help to keep them upright. A guide is that shoots on a well chitted potato should be knobbly, fat and green or pink in colour and about 2cm long. When planting out, handle potato tubers carefully so you don't damage the shoots, and plant with shoots uppermost. Cover with soil and as soon as the new growth appears, begin to earth up, covering the emerging shoots as they grow until they are just covered each time.

Spring is the perfect time to get children involved in gardening; like the children that attend the after School Gardening Club at John Blandy School. The key to keeping youngsters interested is quick results - so bear that in mind when buying seeds for them to grow. There are lots of quick growing seeds that are favourites for children to grow. Cut and come again Lettuce and Salad Leaves with a mix of colours, shapes and textures is always a good one. Red leaved lettuce Amaze is a small Little Gem type perfect for kids. Carrots are great favourites - it doesn't matter if the seed isn't sown evenly as some interesting carrot shapes can be found when seed is sown a bit higgledy-piggledy!

Continue planting Spring salad crops, finish planting shallots, garlic and onion sets. Prepare the area for growing French and Runner beans using well-rotted garden or farmyard manure with a top dressing of organic fertilizer, fish/blood and bone or seaweed.

1st Kingston Bagpuize Brownies

We're settling into our new home in the Swallow Room of the Village Hall. We've had a fun evening of newspaper fashion, when the Brownies designed and made clothes using paper and sticky tape. The girls have been busy making Mother's Day cards and presents and will be making Easter cards and decorations.

One of our Leaders, Nina, is moving away, so is leaving us at Easter. We wish Nina all the best for the future. We'll miss her.

We have a few spaces for girls from 7-10. We are also looking for a new Leader. If interested please contact Sam Bawden, Tel: 07779 640465, Email: bagpuizebrownies@hotmail.co.uk Carole Watts



The Way We Were

The Hind's Head & Saddler's Cottage in the early 20th Century





NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

The March meeting of the KBS Parish Council took place on Monday 3rd March, In the Village hall, together with 20 members of the public.

Public Participation. Thames Water: Two representatives from Thames Water attended to answer questions on the possible effects of current developments on the existing foul water network and treatment works, and Thames Waters' control on the development, by Taylor Wimpey.

The Town Planning manager, Mr Matthews, indicated that he had attended a number of similar meetings, and took very seriously the legitimate concerns of residents. He agreed to respond to any further enquiries, which should be addressed through the Parish Clerk. Both representatives were of the opinion that the Developments will not compromise the existing network. However, they were aware of current, intermittent but persistent, problems in parts of the Village. In some cases, this had been caused by the disposal of 'WIPES' into the system, which were not in fact 'Disposable', and were causing blockages (residents are requested to refrain from so doing in future).

The treatment works has to comply with Environmental Agency discharge consents, and there are opportunities to increase capacity at the works in the short term, and information will be provided on current flows and capacity. Monitoring and modelling is on-going within the village to predict future flows and treatment requirements.

Thames Water indicated that they expected agreement between Taylor Wimpey, VWHDC, and themselves shortly, which will lead to a request to discharge one of The 'Grampian' planning conditions imposed, and the re-start of work on site. It was expected that Taylor Wimpey will decide to undertake the necessary improvement to the network including a new sewer across the adjoining field to the west of the 'Waggon Path'.

It is also expected that David Wilson Homes will commission Thames Water to provide a new, or an extension to the existing, sewer along the Faringdon Rd, down Bellamy Close and then south to the treatment works. In both cases, the developers' foul water provision will need to be proved adequate by Thames Water before properties can be connected to the network. Thames Water will not accept provision of foul water storage outside the development sites, but at some future stage, Thames Water could adopt the 'On Site' pumping stations. Thames Water also advised that the Parish Council, or local groups, could approach Thames Water to request that properties using Septic tanks be connected to any new sewer to which they may now become adjacent.

Some of those present observed that there is often a drop in water pressure below 1 Bar. Thames Water responded that they have a statutory duty to maintain 1 Bar to all properties and failures should be reported to themselves.

Broadband: A deputation from the recently formed KBS Broadband group urged those present to subscribe to the Gigaclear proposal that will provide 'future-proof' ultra fast broadband to subscribers, compared to that which will be available on a BT Openreach fibre to cabinet system.

Members and those present were advised that a go ahead from Gigaclear would no longer prejudice a roll out by BT Openreach under the OCC programme, (a significant change to the previous situation, which would have resulted in BT withdrawing their programme in the relevant area). Once 30% of households (approx 260, not including new build) have signed up to Gigaclear and paid a £100 deposit, Gigaclear would expect to commence installation within 100 days.

Planning. Local Plan 2031 part 1- Housing delivery update. The public consultation closes on 4th April. No strategic sites (200+) in the parish are proposed over the planning period but a number of smaller sites, not yet identified, could substantially increase the number of dwellings beyond those currently permitted! The major developments on-going and proposed for the Grove area and Harwell, will have major impact on traffic flows within the Parish.

Draft Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste local plan: Core Strategy. Support for the clause 4.28, which includes "to the period 2030 further soft sand workings to be from existing quarries"

Pye Development- Public area adjoining Faringdon Rd. The Parish Council's Legal Representative will suggest to Pye that the Parish Council adopts the Public Area after completion of the landscaping, rather than in the interim, with a lease back on completion.

For Applications/Decisions & Accounts : Please refer to P.C. Minutes for details.

Sports Field and Pavilion. On completion of the pavilion, the facility will be leased to the Parish Council, and sub let to the clubs. The lease will need to be carefully drafted to ensure that the Parish Council can meet any potential and future liabilities.

Correspondence. Community Governance Review; VWHDC. Cabinet officers have approved the draft proposals, which would transfer the whole of that part of Fyfield with Tubney Parish South of the A415, to KBS Parish. A public consultation will run until 31st May. Residents are urged to voice an opinion!

Village Amenities: War Memorial. TV Police has concerns over road closure proposals for this years November Memorial Service. Access to Frax Close and Oxford Rd to be maintained....*Continued overleaf*

News from the Parish Council continued.....

Litter clearance. Mr Ray Beckley has intimated his intention to retire at the beginning of April, after some 12 years of service to the community. The Parish Council wishes to record its grateful thanks to Mr Beckley for performing this service over the years together with other numerous maintenance tasks.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Mon 7th April, followed by the annual Parish meeting on Tues 8th April, both in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. *Brian Forster, Chairman.*



Southmoor & Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club

We have something special for our meeting on 1st April. No, it's not an 'April fool', it's a fascinating talk by Christine Stapley all about Herbs for Cooking and Remedies. The talk includes some forgotten tips about growing herbs and their benefits to enhance the flavours and nutritional goodness of our food, but also some simple home prepared remedies

for our ailments! 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm at the Village Hall in Draycott Road, Southmoor OX13 5BY. Our annual membership is £10 and includes FREE admission to our regular monthly meetings plus a cup of tea or coffee with biscuit. Visitors are very welcome at £3 per meeting. We hold a grand raffle, and a members' table where plants and gardening goodies are often available for sale with donations going to our adopted charity. For more details about the S&KB Gardening Club, please call Steve or Sharon on 820399 or email skbgardeningclub@gmail.com *Ron Green*

LONGWORTH AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY



The AGM was held in the Swallow Room on the 6th March. The committee was returned with only one change. Jan Kelly stood down. She was a founder member of the Society. During her time on the committee she has been secretary, treasurer, chair and everything else that was necessary for the society to grow. She will continue to write and be a useful font of information for us. For her work through all the years we thank her. She will continue as a consultant, and write articles for The Rose. The March issue of The Rose can be bought at the next meeting, or at The Post Office, or get in touch with me. If you have an interest in any aspect of history and have a story to tell please get in touch with us. We have a 'Writer in Residence' who will help tell your story whatever it is about. The next edition of The Rose will have local stories of how The Great War affected this area. If you have any family stories of this time and would like to share them with us please get in touch.

The talk in February was given by David Ashby on the subject of the archaeological excavations in Stanford in the Vale. His evidence showed that Stanford is a 'failed market town'. The neighbouring towns of Faringdon and Wantage continued to grow even though they had a smaller population in the medieval times. David's study of Stanford continues so we look forward to the next instalment.

Next meeting 17th April in Southmoor Village Hall, 7.15 for a 7.30 start. There is a charge £2 for Non-members. Everyone is welcome.

Alan Turton, a military historian, who is a specialist on The English Civil War, will speak on 'The Last days of Charles I'. Alan's talk will include 'The Battle of New Bridge'. *Kathy Fletcher 820193*



AGM and membership fees

The club's AGM was held back in February. The minutes are available on the website (www.kbstennis.org) for those interested but, amongst other matters, new membership fees were agreed. The club wants tennis to be available to all in the village, especially juniors, and our fees have always been the lowest in the county to make this happen. So, whilst some of our fees have increased by a small amount, the rates for juniors have remained the same

(in fact they've remained the sameness for five years now!). So, if you or your children are interested in playing we still provide fantastic value. The full range of fees are: Juniors - £16, Adults - £45, Family - £96 and Students (over 18 in full time education) - £22. There are no other fees - once these are paid you can play as many times as you like - although we do charge a refundable deposit for a court key.

If you're interested, you can find out more and even join online at our website - <http://www.kbstennis.org>. Hope to see you at the courts. *Paul Gill*

KINGSTON BAGPUIZE DRAMA GROUP



Rehearsals are well under the way for our Murder Mystery Evening to be held on the 26th April with lines learnt and costumes sourced. The evening includes a performance of 'Amdram is Murder' as well as a ploughman's supper, dessert, tea and coffee, licensed bar and chance to quiz the suspects and solve the crime.

Our 'new faces' are settling in to the group and preparing to tread the boards for the first time. All the main roles in this production are being acted by residents of Kingston Bagpuize and Southmoor supported by the extended group.

Tickets for the evening, including food are £12 and can be purchased by calling 01865 821816 or by emailing paula.eastwood@gmail.co.uk or by picking up a booking form from Southmoor Food and Wine or hoicking last month's edition of KBS news out of the recycling and turning to the back cover where there is a booking form. Tickets for this event must be paid for in advance by 19th April. Booking forms and cheques made out to 'Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group' should be sent to Paula Eastwood, Wayside House, Beggars Lane, OX13 5BL. We look forward to seeing you on the 26th. *Sarah Curran*



Chef Speak

*Fallowfields' Head Chef &
Farm Manager Matt Weedon.*

With the last of the shoots over and our final haul of pheasants, partridge and hare almost gone, we turn our attentions to spring and what is available during the time in between.

An ever present ingredient that will always be on the menu is Beef. Our Beef from the farm is Dexter and yields some great tasting meat. When we are without our own Beef we source it from Lin Blackwell at Challow Hill. There isn't anything that she doesn't know about Dexters and is always on hand with advice along with some of the finest Beef I have ever tasted.

As an avid foodie myself I love to travel and regularly get on a plane and head off to the next best restaurant in Europe or the US.

Noma in Copenhagen, Denmark, El Celler de Can Roca in Girona, Spain, Per Se in New York and the French Laundry in the Napa Valley are some of the favourites I've visited over the years. And during 2013 my top 5 dining experiences reads as follows 1. Faviken in Jamtland Sweden 2. Square- London 3. Le Manoir aux Quat Saisons- Oxfordshire 4 Story- London 5 Pollen Street – London. I can strongly recommend all of those restaurants as excellent places to eat.

Competition: BE A CHEF FOR A DAY at Fallowfields!

Enter our competition to win day to remember working next to Matt Weedon at the luxury Fallowfields Hotel:

• To win a day with Matt Weedon, Number 45 Chef in the 2012 Sunday Times Top 100 Restaurants List. Past holder of a Michelin Star for 3 years, and currently 3 AA Rosettes

• 0900 Arrive, meet the chefs, get briefed on the day's business activities. Health and safety and Fire brief. Put on chef whites.

• 0920 to 1230 Work with the Chefs, helping prep for the lunch and evening service, making bread, making pasta, preparing shellfish, vegetables etc. Help feed the animals on the farm [bring your own wellies if you want to do this].

• 1230 – 1330 Complimentary two or three course Lunch in the restaurant. If the winner wants to bring family and friends for lunch we would charge them £30 each.

• 1330 Back to work until all prep [mis en place] is done for the evening service

• Afternoon break if mis en place allows.

• 1745 Evening service starts. Work with the chefs through as much of service as your back can stand!

A chef's life is a tough one, standing all day – there is no room in the kitchen for chairs. Breaks are "as defined by the level of business" Head Chef is always called "Chef". Both sexes are welcome although we do not have any lady chefs at the moment. There is no bad language or chefs toys being thrown out of the window – this is a professional kitchen!

To enter simply decode the jumbled letters of the eight celebrity chefs below, complete the tie-breaker and send your answers to editorkbsnews@gmail.com or put your entry in the KBS News collection boxes in Southmoor Food & Wine or the Post Office, don't forget to include your name and address and telephone number. **Entries must be received by April 11th.** Good luck.

1. EKOHNM 2. JIAASRMMNET 3. RTNUINARBER 4. LAOJVIEIERM 5. YRDGENOAORMS 6. XCMIOUHLER 7. CNRBOALAYMND 8. SCITIRNKE

Tie-breaker: I would like to spend a day with a professional chef because.....

Dear Editor, Superfast Broadband.

As a daily user of the Internet, I was interested to read in February's KBS News an item from the Vice Chairman of the Parish Council that indicated that next year our village would be part of the BT roll out of their broadband. The piece indicated that the village will be completely covered and receive speeds of about 24 Mbps, which is some four times better than I currently receive. It was also pointed out that had the village involved 'other providers' in giving us access to fast broadband BT would probably not install their equipment.

It struck me that the village, as a whole, will be better off due to having done nothing. My current Broadband does all I want, at very acceptable speeds, but it sounded like good news.

Then in March's KBS News I read that a number of residents have formed a community group to examine alternatives to BT. The March item seems to indicate that the group favour using Gigaclear to install a broadband network in our village. The piece was very informative in that it explained the difference between BT's broadband offering of Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) and that of Gigaclear's Fibre To The Premises (FTTP). However, there are a number of questions the February item raised. They are:

1. Who are these residents and how many are there? Are they householders who just want a faster broadband service or are they people who use their home broadband for work. If the latter is the case, I can understand their desire to have a much faster service, but would question whether they really are thinking of the community as a whole.
 2. It seems that Gigaclear will have to dig up many of our pathways and driveways to make their FTTP connections but will only make good the bit disturbed rather than resurfacing the complete pathways. Perhaps we could insist on a full resurfacing to avoid the potholes that always seem to come from patches left after a visit by one or other of the utility providers. The last thing I want to see is more patched pavements. It seems that our District Council has less and less money for road and pavement repair so it would be important to ensure any resurfacing costs are completely born by Gigaclear or any other provider.
 3. If the requisite number of homes sign up to Gigaclear will every house in the village have the Gigaclear service to their property, whether connected or not, or just those that sign up.
 4. The March item states that Gigaclear will require 220 households to sign up although the Gigaclear Web Site says 283. This is less than a quarter of the houses, currently in the village, and will possibly leave (after all the developments have completed) another 1000 properties unconnected. It is important to know if I decide to join Gigaclear and my neighbour does not, will further upheaval be required if my neighbour joins Gigaclear later.
 5. The KBS Broadband Web Site says that BT's FTTC will be installed irrespective of whether or not Gigaclear is rolled out in the village. It would be good to receive BT's confirmation of this.
 6. The KBS Broadband site indicates a monthly customer charge of £43+ for a 50Mbps service, which would give a comprehensive package but is obviously a long way short of the 1000Mbps regularly quoted. That it seems would cost upwards of £70 monthly.
 7. The KBS Broadband Web Site contains a link to their installation Service Provider (Boxcom) which shows an installation charge of at least £95. This seems to be in addition to a monthly contract. There also seems to be extra charges for non-standard installations or if a fault develops after the 1 year guarantee has expired.
 8. What, if any, are BT's plans to upgrade their own Broadband Speeds? Surely, BT will not stay still if other providers give a much superior service. The KBS Broadband Group Web Site give some good examples of the difference between 'Typical Rural Time' and 'Gigaclear Time' and the Gigaclear times are certainly impressive. If we are to believe that the future of television, the ability to download films etc, online gaming, and many other yet to be developed things, is over the internet then I guess we will all need Superfast Broadband at sometime in the future. However, I think we all need much more information before we start digging up all our roads, pathways, driveways and front gardens. *Name & Address Supplied*
-

KINGSTON BAGPUIZE WITH SOUTHMOOR W.I.

This month was our AGM which was very well attended. Catherine Blaxhall, our W.I advisor along with two ladies from Aston and Cote W.I. kindly came along to count the votes. A new committee was formed and we look forward to an exciting year ahead of us. The annual meal is being held at Sudbury House Hotel in April therefore there will be no meeting in the Village Hall for this month. Details of the May meeting will be in next months' KBS News after the committee have decided their positions. SO WATCH THIS SPACE! New members and visitors always welcome. *Pat*

Where have all the Wheatleys gone? Part Two.

In August 1949 Frederick and Agnes celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. According to the local paper, the church bells rung for them and a family party with their 4 children, 7 grandchildren (not me - I was a surprise a year later) and 2 great grandchildren. In March 1953 Frederick was taken ill, admitted to the Radcliffe Infirmary and died there a few days later. The following year my Uncle Jack, who never married, was taken ill at work, admitted to the Radcliffe and died the same day, November 30th 1954. Uncle Reg stayed up in Melton Mowbray where he died in 1976. My grandmother died in 1962 aged 83 whilst spending the winter with Uncle Reg as Craven Villas had only very basic facilities. She usually spent the winter with us but my father had been ill that autumn and mother said she couldn't cope with both of them, a decision she always regretted as my grandmother was buried at Melton and not at Kingston "where she belonged". Aunty Ethel who had lived at Botley moved to Wheely in Essex and died there in 1971. My mother died in 1998 aged 92, so that was the end of the Wheatleys of Kingston Bagpuize.

But what of the beginning? A John Wheatley appears in the Parish register when he married Elizabeth Luker in 1816 and again in 1836 when he is buried in the churchyard aged 46. A trawl through the IGI produced a John Wheatley, baptised in Windsor in 1750, and of course, that's only a day or so down the Thames by boat which in the early part of the 19th century was easier than travelling by road. Was that him and how he arrived in Kingston Bagpuize? I'd love to know. Family legend says Wheatleys were coachmen at Kingston House but we all know about family legends don't we! *Dianne Causer*



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ED VAIZEY MP Parish Notes



As your MP, I am often asked to help communities with challenges they face.

Usually, these will just affect one town or village, but there is now one issue which will affect most of the Didcot and Wantage

Constituency: the electrification of the railway in Oxfordshire, and the resulting plans to close 18 railway bridges across the area. Even if you don't live near a bridge which may be closed for, we hear, up to 6 months, the chances are you will travel through an area which will be affected.

I am very much aware of the problems that the temporary closure of railway bridges and subsequent traffic diversions would cause and share the concerns of so many Constituents on that score. I have been directly in touch with Network Rail about the issue for some weeks and a member of my staff attended a briefing about the matter at County Hall. I have also visited a business owner to hear about the impact on his and other local businesses, which will be dreadful. To begin to try to sort things out, I have called a meeting with Network Rail senior executives specifically about this matter.

I have quite a large list of Constituents to whom I send occasional updates on progress in dealing with Network Rail on the general issues about electrification and particularly the impact on bridges and road closures. If you would like to be added to that list, please email me at vaizeye@parliament.uk and I will ensure you are kept up to date – but will try not to swamp you with communications.

My mailbag this month continues to include a diverse mix of issues, ranging from pupils taking holidays during school term time to the use of wild animals in circuses. With the Chancellor of the Exchequer set to deliver his Budget in March, I have received a particularly high number of letters and emails calling for beer duty to be frozen for this year. I am pleased that the Government decided to make a targeted reduction in beer duty and abolished the beer duty escalator at Budget 2013. I'm assured that the Chancellor is fully aware of many of the arguments made in favour of a freeze in beer duty for 2014, and is also sympathetic to the case of responsible drinkers. As ever please feel free to contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Email is the quickest and most reliable way to get in touch, as I keep a very close eye on my emails and can reply very quickly. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.

Ed Vaizey MP





KB & S BOWLS CLUB

On the 15th February we took a team to play Oxford and District on their indoor rinks and lost all four rinks but KB played well against strong and competitive outfit. The following week we went to Carterton, not usually a good hunting ground for us, for another friendly match but thanks to some excellent bowling we managed to win all four rinks and the game 76-46. On the 16th March we entertained Abingdon, the weather was sunny and warm, unlike last year when this fixture was cancelled due to an overnight fall of snow. Five rinks were in action with KB winning two with an overall loss of 68-82.

On the social side we had a Medieval Evening at the Club House with Friar Tucks, Kings, Knights and ladies of the court in abundance served by lovely wenches, a full house with the usual excellent banquet by Chris and Jaq. We look forward to our tour to Spain in April where our base will be the Hotel Sol Aloha Puerto in Benalmadena and we will play four games. We then have our opening tournament on the 21st April and the following day our Ladies entertain Abingdon Ladies in a friendly. On 24th we start our defence of the Ashley Baker mixed League at Kintbury. Our next Quiz at the Club House is on Friday 26th and we complete April with an away game at Carterton on their outdoor green. *Mick Fuller (Club Captain) 01865 820818*



New Age Kurling

New Age Kurling is an indoor version of the Kurling you may have seen on the TV while viewing the Winter Olympics recently. The 'stones' are replaced by discs with a handle and bearings so they can slide along the floor, making it an ideal game for our village hall. It can be played by young and mature people, standing or sitting, and doesn't require fitness. The only energy used is via pushing a lightweight broom-like pole to move the discs to a target which has

red, white and blue concentric circles.

I have spoken to the secretary of the British New Age Kurling Association who has agreed to come and give a demonstration in the village hall if enough people are interested. If you are interested in watching a demonstration and having a go, please contact me on Kathy.c-smith@virgin.net and I will contact the kurling secretary and arrange a date in the village hall.

This could open up a whole new range of possibilities for you. It will be an ideal opportunity to get involved in a gentle game within a social setting, and maybe make new friends in our ever increasing village population.

Kathy Critchlow-Smith



Laughter is the best medicine

Two 90 year old men, Mike and Joe, have been friends all of their lives. When it's clear that Joe is dying, Mike visits him every day. One day Mike says, "Joe, we both loved rugby all our lives, and we played rugby on Saturdays together for so many years. Please do me one favour; when you get to Heaven, somehow you must let me know if there's rugby there." Joe looks up at Mike from his death bed, "Mike, you've been my best friend for many years. "If it's at all possible, I'll do this favour for you." Shortly after that, Joe passes on. At midnight a couple of nights later, Mike is awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to him, "Mike--Mike." "Who is it? Asks Mike sitting up suddenly. "Who is it?" "Mike--it's me, Joe." "You're not Joe. Joe just died." "I'm telling you, it's me, Joe," insists the voice. "Joe! Where are you?" "In heaven", replies Joe. "I have some really good news and a little bad news." "Tell me the good news first," says Mike. "The good news," Joe says, "is that there's rugby in heaven. Better yet, all of our old friends who died over the last few years are here, too. Better than that, we're all young again. Better still, it's always spring time and it never rains or snows. And best of all, we can play rugby all we want, and we never get tired." That's fantastic," says Mike. "It's beyond my wildest dreams! So what's the bad news? "You're in the team for this Saturday!"

THE LAST WORD: Credit where it's due

Builders, local vs national: It's good to employ local businesses.

Hale and Sons of Southmoor have recently completed an indoor building project in my house. Their work was excellent, completed in the minimum time with as little mess as possible. They are highly skilled, careful, obliging and trustworthy: also reasonably priced. I would thoroughly recommend them (and no, I'm not a shareholder or relative!). *Yours truly (name and address supplied)*

