

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 2

March 2014

Wimpey grilled to perfection

At a lively meeting held in the Village Hall on February 3rd, representatives from David Wilson Homes, developers of the Witney Road site, and the Draycott Road contractors, Taylor Wimpey, faced concerned villagers and the Parish Council about the effect the current building programme is having on our lives and homes.

David Wilson Homes kicked off with a presentation on the layout and appearance of the finished site. Much concern was raised about the size and nature of the Care Home and the road layout leading to and from the new houses.

The man from Soha (South Oxfordshire Housing Association) confirmed the Home would be for elderly people who primarily need the extra care offered in terms of being warden controlled and having extensive medical facilities. The size of the edifice has been reduced in height and moved 11 metres to avoid overlooking neighbouring properties and a balcony has been removed for the same reason.

Our man David Warr kept the Wilson team on its toes with well-timed and pertinent questions throughout the presentation which, in fairness, raised as many queries as it answered.

The second bout was Andy Cattermole, a Senior Planner from Taylor Wimpey, who no sooner had stepped into the ring than he was pinned to the ropes by a series of accusations from the stalwart Hannah Woodley. She was concerned about the performance of the groundwork contractors and their delivery drivers to the Draycott Road site. Despite assurances the company had conformed to restrictions about approval from Thames Water before proceeding with the building of the houses, the village people came out of their corner fighting and aimed a barrage of questions about the development. He was left in no doubt that the natives

were definitely restless.

Promising to look into the various queries raised, Mr Cattermole suffered a knockout blow from the eagle eyed Chris Carpenter who had noticed he hadn't taken any notes so how could he remember the said queries? Ding! End of round two.

After a brief update from Virginia Grant stating the Sports Field development was on course and the first work undertaken would be the erection of ten of the houses and the Sports Pavilion, the meeting adjourned.

Lance Bassett



Concerned villagers listen to the speakers from the developers



Andy Cattermole defends his company's performance to the Parish Council and public

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

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Caroline Ashby

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kbsonline Rep: John Smith

Copy date for next issue: BEFORE Monday 17th March 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.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.

Beyond the Whinge - the Editor's blog

OK this getting beyond a joke. I have mentioned this before but I reckon it merits another outing. Road signs. Remember them? Now most of them are lost behind overgrown foliage or too covered in algae to be able to read.

This short sighted idea, no doubt designed by the Vale to save 2p, not only looks appalling but is downright dangerous. I try to maintain a tidy and clean environment around my house but why do I bother when the street signs make the area look like a bad night in Benghazi.

It strikes me the Vale increasingly takes our money but deliver the goods less and less.

Are we supposed to maintain the street furniture ourselves? But then the council would be the first to say you can't do that 'cos of 'elf and safety'. So what is the answer? In the US, local businesses are encouraged to sponsor litter picking etc along highways and have the necessary signage advertising the fact. So why can't we do that for the upkeep of road signs? I can see the village boundary sign now 'Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor sponsored by the Log Cabin.' Sounds good to me.



2 VILLAGE DIARY

Village Hall Booking Details tel: 0777 153 9901 email: southmoorvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk

March	Day	Time	What & Where (SVH = Southmoor Village Hall)	Page
Monday	3rd	7.00pm	KBS Parish Council Meeting – Swallow Room, VH	15
Tuesday	4th	7.15pm for 7.30pm	Southmoor & Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club - Open Evening including Chris Smith "A Garden of Edible Delights" - SVH	16
Wednesday	5th	**** Food Collection & Grey Bin Collection ****		
Thursday	6th	7.30pm	Longworth & District History Society AGM - Swallow Room SVH	16
Friday	7th	7.15pm	Music Recital - St John the Baptist Parish Church	6
Saturday	8th	4.00pm - 5.00pm	Kingston Bagpuize Cricket Club U10 - U14 Training - Abingdon School	18
Sunday	9th	10.30am	Cafe Church - Coffee, Bacon Rolls, Croissants - St John the Baptist Ch	5
Monday	10th	Mobile Library ** 10.05am Waggon & Horses, SVH 10.45am, Bellamy CI 11.15		
Wednesday	12th	**** Food Collection & Green Bin Collection & Brown Bin Collection ****		
Monday	17th	4.00pm	Last Copy Date / Time for KBS News April 2014 Edition	2
Tuesday	18th	7.30pm	KB & S 14+ Drop In Centre AGM - Methodist Church Hall	6
Wednesday	19th	**** Food Collection & Grey Bin Collection ****		
Thursday	20th	7.15pm for 7.30pm	Longworth & District History Soc - "Sex in Victorian Novels" SVH	16
Saturday	22nd	7.00pm	Blandy Boffins Quiz - John Blandy School Hall	23
Monday	24th	Mobile Library ** 10.05am Waggon & Horses, SVH 10.45am, Bellamy CI 11.15		
Wednesday	26th	**** Food Collection & Green Bin Collection & Brown Bin ****		
April				
Wednesday	2nd	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Serendipity Over 60s Club Meeting	6
Tuesday	8th		Annual Parish Meeting - Southmoor Village Hall	15
Sunday	13th	10.00am	Sightsavers & The Rotary Club of Oxford North - Sponsored Walk - Blenheim Park	6
Saturday	26th	7.00pm - doors open	Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group - Murder Mystery Evening - SVH	24
May				
Wednesday	7th	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Serendipity Over 60s Club Meeting	6

**** 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 Contact Mike Furse 01865 820162	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

Occasional adverts can only be included only where space permits

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

KINGSTON BAGUIZE CHURCH NOTICES

<http://kingstonbaguizechurch.wordpress.com>



Sunday	2nd March	9.00am	Holy Communion	Speaker: Mr Nigel Griffiths of Wycliffe Hall
		10.30am	Morning Worship	Speaker: Dr Colin Wood
Wednesday	5th March	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Cluster Holy Communion	Speaker: Revd Lyn Sapwell
Sunday	9th March	9.00am	Holy Communion	Revd David Pickering
		10.30am	Café Church Leaders:	Mrs Anne Curtis, Mrs Mel Gulliford
Monday	10th March	8.00pm	Compline (in the Church Room)	Speaker: Mr Charles Bone
Sunday	16th March	9.00am	Holy Communion	Speaker: Revd Ian Bensted
		10.30am	Questions of Life Service	Speaker: Revd Suresh Menon
Sunday	23rd March	9.00am & 10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd David Pickering
Sunday	30th March	9.00am	Holy Communion	Mothering Sunday Revd David Pickering
		10.30am	Mothering Sunday All-Age Service	Speakers: Mrs Anne Curtis, Revd D. Pickering

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

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS: MUSIC RECITAL: On Friday 7th at 7.15pm we have a recital in St John the Baptist Church given by a group of talented musicians, guided by Jenny Charlton. No charge, donations welcome.

CAFÉ CHURCH: On Sunday 9th: instead of a regular church service, a relaxed time of good conversation in the Church Room over bacon baps and croissants, with a fascinating NOOMA DVD to lead us into an interesting discussion. All welcome.

MOTHERING SUNDAY: On Sunday 30th: it's a special service every year, with flowers for all mothers, and a joyful celebration for all the family.

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/>



KBS News goes International

With the onset of the holiday season we thought we would hold this fun competition to see how far away one of the village residents could be photographed holding a copy of the KBS News. We'll publish all the entries and accept what we are told as to where they were taken (No cheating!). First off is Cindy Bassett from Stone House Close clutching her copy of the News and holding on to her hat in the windy Cape Verde islands. Can you beat this for distance carrying the KBS News? Send your location photographs to editorkbsnews@gmail.com. We'll publish all the shots and award a bottle of something to the winner later in the year. Happy Holidays.



VILLAGE VOICES

Dear KBS News, I love the old rag and read it all the time, but was horrified when I read the review of the Rose Revived. I'm 40 years of age and have a very broad palate. For a cheap and quick meal I took my parents one afternoon.

Well, my mother's steak meal came in two pieces, not normally a problem but 10-15 minutes apart. My father's and my main course was okay for £9.99, unfortunately we'd both finished our meals before my mother was served hers. However the dessert of Eaton Mess was a pink mouse slime like you got at school with no egg white meringues and my father didn't receive his at all. This appalling meal took 1 1/2 hours!

My parents were horrified about the meal. We've learnt the hard way you get what you pay for and we will never eat there again. Your report was correct regarding the very pleasant, helpful and courteous staff. Greene King only knows how to cut back on quality. *Name and address supplied.*

I also would like to thank Carolyn and Andy for their terrific service. Although the Post Office gets very very busy most of the time there is never a feeling rush at the counter to hurry us along. It is a place where one feels confident that whatever advice is given on necessary matters, everything is handled with upmost discretion and calmness, and sometimes humour. It is fortunate for us all that the Post Office carries almost everything in the stationery side and the greeting cards are really superb. Thanks you both and your staff for creating such a friendly atmosphere at our Southmoor Post Office. We should all feel lucky to have them.

From another appreciative customer

I meant to email you immediately regarding the new look KBS News. It is truly a great layout. Something I have wished for, for many years. Love the heading everything about it. Good for you. Jill Muir

St John the Baptist Church invite
you to join them for Café Church on
Sunday 9th March 2014



From 10.30 am onwards in the Church Room @
St John the Baptist Church, Kingston Bagpuize
(just off the A415)

With proper coffee, bacon rolls & croissants -
A chance to relax, read the papers, watch a DVD
answering one of Life's Big Questions, and meet
new friends



For more info contact Anne on 01865 821614



ED VAIZEY MP Parish Notes



This month's postbag has been a real mix of domestic and international affairs, with issues such as autism, blasphemy laws in Pakistan, transparency in politics, wildlife crime and animal rights in South Korea featuring frequently.

I also received many emails and letters from constituents concerned about the plight of Syrian refugees. As the conflict in Syria continues to force millions from their homes, it is vital that we do our utmost to assist those suffering at this time of great need. I therefore welcomed the Home Secretary's commitment to provide refuge to some of the most vulnerable refugees here in the UK. Following the announcement, I received an email from a local family who wish to offer their home to a refugee, which provides just one example of why the UK has such a proud tradition of supporting those most in need. As ever please feel free to contact me at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.

Do you have something to say? Why not get it off your chest and put it in the KBS News? Send your thoughts to editorkbsnews@gmail.com

Village Notice Board

The 14+ Teenage youth drop In has now been running for four years at the Methodist church. Between 30 to 35 young people are now regularly enjoying themselves on a Friday evening. The 2014 Annual General Meeting is being held on Tuesday the 18th March commencing at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church. All are welcome to come along to hear about the activities and progress being made. Do come along and join us to hear what the young people are doing.

REMINDER - Friday 7th March 7.15pm

Don't forget Friday's recital in the Parish Church by talented young pianists from the village - they just get better. Retiring collection for 'Raise the Roof' and CLICSargent, Cancer care support for children.....Jennifer Charlton

Sightsavers and The Rotary Club of Oxford North are holding a sponsored walk at Blenheim Palace Sunday 13th April 2014 at 10am.

Enjoy the great outdoors and raise money to help save sight in some of the world's poorest countries. For further information and to take part, please visit www.sightsavers.org/walk



Thames Valley Police Alert

Hinton Waldrist, Faringdon. Between Tuesday (18/2), and Thursday (20/2), a property in School Road, Hinton Waldrist, was burgled. It is believed entry was gained via a rear insecure window. Cash was stolen from a bedside cabinet.

Between Sunday (16/2), and Thursday (20/2), forced entry was gained to a shed and an attempt was made to gain entry to a garage in High Street, Hinton Waldrist. Nothing appears to have been stolen.

East Hanney, Wantage

On Wednesday (19/2), at approximately 11.15pm, the Royal British Legion, Mill Orchard, East Hanney, was broken into. Entry was gained via a fire door. A grey metal safe containing cash was ripped off a wall and stolen.

A suspect vehicle was seen containing four or five suspects, who were wearing dark clothing with their faces covered. The vehicle is described as a 4 x 4, two-toned - dark green along the top and light coloured at the bottom, possibly cream or silver.

Southmoor, Abingdon. On Thursday (20/2), between 1am and 6.45am, a business premises in Faringdon Road, Southmoor, was burgled. Offender(s) ripped a safe off a wall and stole cash.

If you have seen any suspicious looking people or vehicles in the area or have any information relating to this message please call the police on 101.

Alternatively if you have information but wish to remain anonymous, please call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or online @ crimestoppers-uk.org. No personal details are taken, information is not traced or recorded and you will not go to court.



At the Parish Council meeting on March 3rd, representatives from Thames Water, Mark Matthews Town Planning Manager and Brendon Hegerty from Waste Water Asset Management, will be attending to answer questions from residents on the current planned developments in the village. The meeting is in the Swallow Room of the Village Hall at 7pm.

SERENDIPITY OVER 60'S CLUB

Members enjoyed exercising their brains over a couple of quizzes!! Although we were a little depleted due to the high winds and rain, we all had a laugh and a chat which is what it is all about. DUE TO HOLIDAYS COULD YOU PLEASE NOTE THAT APRIL SERENDIPITY WILL BE ON 2nd APRIL AND MAY SERENDIPITY WILL BE ON 7th MAY, SAME TIME SAME PLACE. Details from Pat 820775



Why are married women heavier than single women?

Single women come home, see what's in the fridge and go to bed.

Married women come home, see what's in bed and go to the fridge!



FEEL LIKE EATING OUT TODAY? No: 12 The Waggon & Horses, Southmoor

Eight of us who know all about these things descended on the Waggon and Horses recently to sample the OAP's lunch offer, a main course for £4.50, well I mean there's a bargain. Taking up our position in the newly decorated bar, a bottle of Shiraz to start the proceedings and we were ready to peruse the menu. The choice is restricted to standard pub fare, Scampi, Fish & Chips, Ham, Egg & chips etc., you know the sort of thing, all advertised on the chalk board propped

on the bar which intimated the menu might be altered fairly regularly.

They stated that the pensioner's portions are smaller than the norm, fair enough, older folk are supposed to eat less, but I haven't noticed it myself. Still they say small is beautiful so we press on.

Now some of us had the Ham, some had the Scampi and one had the Hulloumi, the bride and I went for the Haddock.

In fairness the fish was delicious. Well cooked, flaky and tasty in a light batter, and no skin. In fact one of the best pieces of haddock I have had in a while.

No puds, as I'm trying to maintain my racing snake figure, so a thrifty meal indeed. The service was pleasant, the open fire added to the ambience, pity it struggled to perform, but a pleasant experience overall.

With the renovations and a new landlord, hopefully the Waggon & Horses will succeed and return to the halcyon days of the early seventies when Basil & Toni Upson were mine hosts. Great times indeed. *Eton Lovett*



THE KBS NEWSWINE LIST

This month, as sometimes at this time of the year after Christmas, the pennies are a little short, we thought we would try wines under £5.00, which in the current climate is not always easy. Therefore, on one of our forays to the Aldi Supermarket, we found quite a lot of wine under £5.00. The following two were

our choices.

The white wine is a Castellore Pinot Grigio 'Delle Venezie' 2012 from Italy priced at £4.39. This fresh white wine has stone fruit flavours, together with hints of crisp citrusy lime, which combine to make this stylish Italian Pinot Grigio. It is exceptionally light on the palate and can be drunk as an aperitif or with light and delicate food. The red wine is a Estevez Reserva Pinot Noir 2013 from Chile priced at £4.99. This wine is crafted from some of Chile's most premium vineyards and is a smooth and elegant Pinot Noir with ripe strawberry and fresh cherry fruit flavours, and a soft subtly spiced red berry fruit finish. It is a little heavier than Pinot Noirs from Europe, but the result is exceptional from a very young wine.

As two of the Wine Quartet are away on the high seas at the moment, we had to call in two other wine buffs to help us with this tasting, and our thanks go to Diana and David for their help. Cheers! *The Wine Quartet*



KINGSTON BAGUIZE DRAMA GROUP

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

We are delighted to welcome new faces to the group as well as some returners - 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.

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*



WORDS OF WISDOM

Life is a mirror: If you frown at it, it frowns back; if you smile, it returns the greeting.

William Makepeace Thackeray

Kingsmoor Community Club at Hinton Waldrist

Kingsmoor Club remains active and well. It's busy with activities and crafts for 2014. We have had new members, men and ladies. Our catchment covers rural areas around Southmoor, we have members from Buckland, Stanford-in-the-vale, Appleton, Marcham, Southmoor, Longworth & Hinton Waldrist. Other members are brought in by relatives from Longcot and Bampton.

We have had a transport increase, but thanks to help from individuals and funding from Oxfordshire County Council we are able to cushion half the costs for a few months. This makes a big difference to our members.

A Big THANKYOU to the 'Hinds Head' for treating us to a Christmas dinner, we are very grateful for their generous spirit every year, thank you Linda and Steve. We have already been bowling at the 'Kassam' in Oxford despite the weather. One member commented 'Kingsmoor has enabled me to do things I have never had the opportunity to do before'. That's what we are all about.

Apart from going out (and we do try each month to have things to look forward to) we provide hairdressing, solemates toe nail cutting, seated exercise classes, soon to start - computer classes for members, poetry club, use of mobile library, help with home care/organising assessments/contact with Age UK information and advice/leaflets on care and local services, support for carers and help in accessing services. The club is friendly and inviting, we have loyal volunteers and 5 paid staff members, we always need more volunteers to help in our busy schedule, please ring to discuss if you are interested in joining our happy team, Tel. 01865 820166

Gwyne Diment.

SOUTHMOOR PRE-SCHOOL



Over the half term break the pre-school committee have been hard at work constructing equipment and redesigning the outside space. The garden is now much more user friendly and with a new den and additional play equipment much more exciting for the children too. We have a new member of staff joining our already fabulous team. We would like to welcome Shelly who comes with a wealth of childcare experience and enthusiasm.

After a few teething problems the website is now complete so please take a look at www.southmoorpre-school.co.uk. The website has a whole host of useful information including admissions form, children's activities and upcoming fundraising/social events. On the front page of the preschool website there is also a link to www.easyfundraising.org.uk. Since Christmas we have raised £30 from this with only a handful of people participating, which is a brilliant effort. It takes just a few minutes to set up your details securely and most importantly there is no extra cost to yourself. There are literally hundreds of online retailers who have signed up to give a donation to our charity (Amazon, M&S, Boots, Game, Next, John Lewis, Argos, Ebay, Currys, Viking etc). Also, if an existing member refers you, an additional £5 will be donated. You don't need to have a child in preschool to sign up but every penny counts and the community's contribution is greatly valued. Please contact either Marie, Kate or Elke if you need any help to get set up.

We are also having another Bags to School collection this month so any unwanted clothes, bedding, curtains or soft toys will be gratefully accepted.

Are you interested in a pre-school place for your child? If so please contact Jackie (Manager) to avoid disappointment, as places are already filling up for September's intake. We take children aged 2 years and 4 months but if your child is 3 they could be entitled to 15 hours of FREE early years education. Email: southmoorpre-school@live.co.uk Tel: 01865 821505. Marie Siviter



Southmoor Baby & Toddler Group

Last month the children celebrated Valentines Day in style by wearing red outfits and decorating party cakes for snack time. The adults too enjoyed a relaxing pub night out at the Waggon and Horses. Check out Aprils edition of the KBS for the date of our next night out.

Thank you to Mrs Singleton for the toys and books she recently donated to the group. We are still in need of dressing up clothes (0-5 years old) in good condition, so if any one locally, has any they are happy to give us. Thinking about coming to the group? The group meets every Friday 10-11.30 (term time only) at Southmoor Village Hall. The hall is a fantastic big space for the little ones to run/crawl about in this horrible wet weather. There are also loads of toys and regular activities planned to keep them entertained. We provide refreshments for both kids and adults and as it a voluntary run group it has pretty open and relaxed atmosphere. Finally, with your first session FREE you can't really go wrong! To find out more please view our web page on the KBS website. Marie Siviter



Grow for the show!

Grow? Are you mad? As I write this, we've just had the windiest, stormiest days in recent memory, and Somerset and Berkshire are still heavily flooded. I can imagine that getting out and growing some vegetables might be furthest from your mind.

But! This is the time to plant seedlings for summer, especially tomatoes. And the good news is that you can do it indoors (as long as you're not messy). I love tomatoes, and I encourage you to have a go at growing some yourself this year. I ask this not only to get budding gardeners once again to enter the Village Show but because I genuinely

think that growing fruit and vegetables is something that we should all be doing more of.

The Village Show this year is Saturday 13 September - and will also still be open to non-members of the Gardening Club. That's 6 months away - all of which your plants will need to grow from nothing to producing lovely red, ripe tomatoes.

So, here's a quick guide to get you going with some tomatoes of your own. You will need: some tomato seeds (from Frosts - a couple of varieties e.g. cherry tomatoes and the classic 'Money Maker' - or pop along to a gardening club meeting where we share seeds), a small bag of seed compost, some small pots (washed if not new), an old tray (to stop the water getting everywhere) and a windowsill that gets some light.

Just following the sowing instructions on the packet, put the pots on the tray on your windowsill (ideally south facing) and water them lightly. You can also cover the pots with some cling film to (a) stop water evaporation and (b) keep a bit of warmth in the pot. Check them every couple of days and make sure that they don't dry out. Within 2-4 weeks you should start to see your tomato plants poking through the soil - by which time the next issue of KBS News will be out and you can then read all about 'pricking out'. I hope you can't wait to hear about that. *Paul Gill.*

.....Broadband News Update.....

"In addition to the County funded broadband upgrade due later this year, Gigaclear have confirmed to the KBS Broadband Group that they will also install infrastructure in the village if they receive commitment from 30% of households. This means that as a village we could have two fantastic broadband options and a huge choice of services available." Alex Chartres



WORDS OF WISDOM

When a person tells you "I'll think it over and let you know" - you know. *Olin Miller*

Keith's Kartoon Komment *Is this the future?*



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Ron's Green Finger Gardening Tips for March

With the relentless rain during February there was little time to spend preparing the soil for planting in March. Fortunately the soil in most parts of our village is free draining and unlikely to become too water-logged, nevertheless the continuous wet will have caused some damage in the garden and may have washed away many essential nutrients. So, if possible, add some well-rotted organic compost, such as spent mushroom compost, leaf mould, manure or home-made compost but the emphasis is on well-rotted. Then, two weeks before sowing or planting add a general granular fertiliser and rake into the top 5cm (2ins) of soil. This will help give your seeds and plants a good start.

Bulbs: many kinds of bulbs are at their best during late March/April. For a better display next year remove the withered blooms which will conserve the strength of the bulb and prevent fungus spores from spreading on the dead heads. Splitting Snowdrops; snowdrops are best left undisturbed for at least four years but when they become overcrowded and some of the leaves are turning yellow, use a fork and gently lift the clump out of the ground. Separate the bulbs and replant them straight away at the same depth as they were previously. This will allow each clump to gradually multiply to give you a bigger display over the next four years.

Sweet peas: as soon as the weather and soil conditions permit you can plant out autumn sown seedlings, which have over-wintered in pots or seed trays. Set out the plants in double rows at approximately 30cm (1 foot) apart, allowing sufficient space between each sweet pea plant. Support using a framework of bamboo canes to provide an effective display in the summer.

Salad crops: it is time to select a site ready for sowing early seeds of lettuce, salad onions and radishes. Sow these seeds in rows, first dressing the soil with a general fertiliser. Sow the seeds sparingly at 2 or 3 weekly intervals for a successive crop. Many other vegetables can also be sown in March such as summer cabbage, peas, spinach, broad beans, parsnips, early carrots and potatoes to name just a few.

Allotments: Unfortunately there are no longer any allotments for rent in this village. However, I understand from the Longworth Allotment Association that they have a few vacant single or double plots available for rent. Their allotments are located off Church Lane, Longworth and for further information contact Wendy Woodford (01865) 821480.

1st Kingston Bagpuize Brownies

We are no longer homeless! From now on the Brownies will be meeting during term time at Southmoor Village Hall. We'll be in the Swallow Room on Wednesdays from 5.15-6.45pm. Our thanks go to the Village Hall Management Committee for their support, especially Dawn Cox for all her efforts.

This month the Brownies will be making pancakes, celebrating St Patrick's Day, working on their Seasons Badge, pampering their Mums for Mother's Day, and learning about the true meaning of Easter.

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



A reader has sent this photograph and asked if any anyone knows where it is in the village and who the people are. Can you help?



NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

The February meeting of the KBS Parish Council was held on Monday 3rd February, in the Village hall together with 25 members of the public.

Public Participation. Representatives for Taylor Wimpey addressed questions posed by residents affected by their behaviour with the Draycott Rd "Development". T.W. gave assurances that a "banksman" would be employed in future for vehicles accessing and exiting the site. T.W. will arrange for residents to meet with their groundworks contractor, Messrs Millbrooke to discuss these issues. The Parish Council and public were concerned to learn that T.W. proposes to re-start work, without their own site manager, for a period of six weeks which was felt to be unacceptable. T.W. claimed that agreement with Thames water on improvement to off site facilities for foul water removal from the site is close. The necessary pipe work will not require excavation of the Draycott Rd. The Clerk will request Thames Water to provide a representative at the March meeting to inform the community of the company's ability to collect and treat the increased volume of foul water. Mrs. Grant advised that approval had been given to the Sports Field development. Development will proceed in three stages, with the Sports Pavilion completed before the start of the 11th dwelling. Mrs Grant thanked the whole community for their support throughout the extended series of planning applications.

Annual Parish Meeting. It was agreed to hold this on Tuesday 8th April and to invite Mrs C Sylvester, Head teacher at John Blandy School, to give a presentation.

Planning. The P.C. agreed to withdraw the objection to the Springhill farm application in view of strict conditions set by the enforcement officer, requiring the "Portakabin" to be removed within two years, and an application for a permanent building to be submitted.

Mr. Chartres reported on the recent Neighbourhood Planning Conference. Although funding is available to develop a neighbourhood Plan, it is worthless until the VWHDC can demonstrate a five year land supply. Expenditure on a NP before a local plan is in place could well be wasted. A member will attend a meeting of the Western Vale Villages Consortium on 7th which will discuss how to respond to current and future development along the A420 Corridor.

The S106 agreement for the Witney Rd Development includes a contribution to OCC of £12K for two bus shelters. Members agreed to pursue OCC's proposal that the Parish council choose the shelters and accept the balance, post installation, as a contribution to future maintenance. For applications received, and decisions, please refer to PC. Minutes for Feb.

Accounts. Donations. A donation of £100 to ENRYCH Oxfordshire was approved, together with a donation to KBS News of £50, in recognition of the help of their delivery team in distributing the Emergency Planning booklets in the village. A further donation to "the After School Gardening Club" at J. Blandy School was also approved. For full payment details, please refer to February Minutes.

Broadband. Mr. Chartres was thanked for the front page article in KBS News. Residents are encouraged to register their interest in an improved service on the "betterbroadbandoxfordshire" website, thereby receiving automatic notification of the latest info.

Correspondence. E-mails from OCC, and VWHDC – recent flooding. The Clerk to respond, noting only minor and limited effects on the Parish.

E-Mail from 1st K.B. Brownies. Accommodation required. The John Blandy School has currently withdrawn the ability to offer community groups a venue, due mainly to lack of staff. It is understood that the Village hall could offer facilities, but with a substantial increase in charges. Members indicated a willingness to cover the increase for a limited period of 3-4 months.

John Blandy Trust. New Chairman David Hancox. A vacancy to be filled by a P.C. Nominee.

Medical Services. Fern Hill and White Horse Medical practices advise they continue to take on new patients.

Village Amenities. Recreation Grounds. New safety surfacing for the Swing sand the Sputnik have been installed.

Land South of the Pye Development. The P.C. needs to come to a view on how best to accommodate any proposed adult fitness equipment; all to be in agreement with the owner's wishes.

Burial Ground. A meeting to avoid any future problems when dealing with relatives of the deceased, and possibly contractors, has been attended by the Clerk.

War Memorial. Complaints have been received regarding the appearance of the wreaths laid on Remembrance Sunday last. They will be removed when their condition is detrimental to the appearance of the memorial, and those it commemorates.

Faults. The Euroshel bus shelters to be cleaned. Damaged road surface A415/420 roundabout/Faringdon Road approaching Hind's Head to be reported OCC highways. Complaints regarding parking on the Hanney Rd obscuring sight lines to the Faringdon Rd, to be conveyed to KBS cafe patrons.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Mon 3rd March in the Village Hall at 7pm. *Brian Forster, Chairman*



Southmoor & Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club

OPEN MEETING: Our Chairman would like to personally invite you to a free open evening on March 4th at 7.15pm for 7.30 pm. With the start of the planting season just around the corner our special guest speaker this month is Chris Smith with his talk called 'A Garden of Edible Delights'. Chris a well-known seed and nursery man will look at what

you have in your garden, and pursue a few alternatives to tempt your palate as well as your eyes in what promises to be an enjoyable talk with many tips, plus a selection of seeds and plants for sale. Come and join us for this special open evening at the Village Hall in Draycott Road, Southmoor OX13 5BY. We expect the evening to finish around 9.30pm. Additionally, may we take this opportunity of giving you advanced notice of our October 7th meeting? When Pippa Greenwood, of Gardeners' Question Time fame, will be invited to help you revive your ailing plants and speak about 'Greener Gardening'. More details nearer the time in KBS News. For more details about either of these events or the S&KB Gardening Club, please call Steve on 820399 or email skbgardeningclub@gmail.com we look forward seeing you on March 4th and come and share a complimentary cup of tea or coffee on us. *Ron Green.*



LONGWORTH AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

This year is the Centenary of the start of The Great War. Many exhibitions will be held to mark the start of The First World War. The History Society is hoping to collect and publish how the war affected everyday life in our villages, as well as stories of soldiers who joined the army and went to fight. If you have a story, photographs or some memorabilia, from this time that you would be willing to share with us please get in touch with me, Kathy Fletcher 820193. The AGM will be held in The Swallow Room, 6th March at 7.30pm. This gives you a chance to discuss how we should run the Society. There will be a display from our Archives and a glass of wine and some nibbles.

The next meeting on Thursday 24th March, is a talk by David Grylls, a lecturer in Literature at the Oxford University's Department of Continuing Education. His subject is 'Sex in Victorian Novels'. As usual we shall meet in The Village Hall, Southmoor, 7.15 for a 7.30 start. *Kathy Fletcher*



KBS CAFE @ SOUTHMOOR

The café continues to be a popular venue for a morning cup of coffee and a chat. The KBS Café is open every Thursday morning from 9am until noon, in the Methodist church on the corner of Faringdon Road and Hanney Road, opposite the Crossroads Garage. We serve Fair Trade tea, coffee and hot chocolate, and squash, biscuits, bacon rolls and toast, plus home-made cakes and scones. There are some gluten-free and dairy-free options too. We have plenty of toys for our younger customers and lots of room for them to play. For the grownups we have newspapers and magazines. There is also a selection of games. Everyone is welcome, from 0 – 100+. 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)

Coffee Morning raises £545 for Cancer Charity



I would like to say a big THANKYOU to everyone who supported the coffee morning held in the village hall on Saturday in aid of MAGGIES cancer care centre in Oxford. Maggie's helps cancer sufferers and their families by chatting over a cup of tea and listening to their questions and problems and in the words of the founder Maggie Keswick Jencks "never lose the joy of living in the fear of dying".

The coffee morning raised £545.10p. This fantastic amount could not have been reached without the generosity of people who donated items, money, cakes etc., and of course friends who gave their time and helped on the day. THANK YOU ALL. *Pat Smith*



1st Southmoor Guides

Following our move at the beginning of January, we are enjoying our new space and would like to thank the Village Hall Committee for being so welcoming and helpful. This term we are doing lots of craft activities and staying in the warm. We are hoping to make a giant camp blanket, which we will use on our campfire circle night at the end of term. We are also making Mothers' Day crafts and have a photographer and a microbiologist coming in to share their expertise with us.

1st Southmoor Guides are in desperate need of some new sports equipment. You can help us by giving us your Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers, we have a box in the Post Office for you to donate them. We need 5,000 for a full sports kit, which we can then use over the summer months to make the most of our new outside space.

Thank you.

We meet on Wednesday evenings in the Swallow Room at the Village Hall, and have a leader, assistant leader, unit helper and two young leaders. For further details please email sally on dance424@btinternet.com or ring 01865 821924. *Sally Dance*

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:

- **Spend 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 you 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. Good luck.

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

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

KINGSTON BAGPUIZE WITH SOUTHMOOR W.I.

This month's meeting featured Keith Jansz a member of The Mouth and Foot Painting Artists. Members found this one of the most interesting and inspiring presentations we have had this year. Keith gave us an insight into his life and work and showed several of his paintings in different styles.

Nominations were also accepted for next year's Committee members for our March meeting is the AGM.

Delicious refreshments were enjoyed by all, courtesy of the hostesses. Finally our meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in Southmoor Village Hall at 7-30pm. Our own website (www.bagpuizewi.co.uk) gives details of all our future meetings and the WI own Denman College in Marcham as well as links to the NFWI website. You can also follow what we get up to on Facebook. *Karen King 820046*



The new tennis season approaches

Anyone for tennis? Believe it or not, we've been playing tennis all through this winter. Only a couple of league matches have been cancelled and, whilst the rain has affected several evening practice sessions or Sunday club mornings, a lot of playing and coaching has been taking place. The courts are floodlit, and we're able to play until 10 in the evening.

Whatever your level of tennis, you would be welcome to join us - whether social tennis with friends, taking part in one of our club sessions, or playing in one of the two men's or three ladies' teams (and one mixed team) that we enter into the Oxfordshire league.

Children are most welcome too. Over half our membership are juniors and most of them love the coaching provided by our head coach Matt Williams. In fact, juniors from villages around and about travel to KBS just for our coaching. So, if your children are interested emulating Heather Watson, Laura Robson and Andy Murray and swinging a racquet, please do contact us.

Our website - <http://www.kbstennis.org> - has information on all the above and more. You can also join the club online (with payment via bank transfer if you wish) so you don't have to leave the comfort of your sitting room (until you have to play of course!) Hope to see you at the courts. *Paul Gill. Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Tennis Club* - <http://www.kbstennis.org>

Kingston Bagpuize Cricket Club

Well the cricket season is slowly creeping up on us so why not come and get some practice in before the season starts.

Junior Cricket: Indoor cricket training sessions will be held for junior members in age groups U10 to U14 inc. at Abingdon School, Park Road, Abingdon OX14 1DE, on the following five Saturday afternoons from 4pm-5pm. 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March & 5th April. The cost will be £15 (£3 per session) Under 15-17 Nets - 5pm-6pm 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March & 5th April The cost will be £15 (£3 per session). If you have your own cricket kit, please bring this with you. Also, please remember to bring a drink. If you would like to join in the fun, please contact Mandy Rodway 07884 393613.

If you are retired but enjoy gardening and small maintenance jobs, we are always looking for volunteers to help maintain the ground and clubhouse, even for just an hour a week, every little helps. Club website: <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/kingstonbagpuizecricketclub>. *Hannah Woodley*



Pathfinder Squadron

With the help of fellow dog-owners who all live in the village, three tons of gravel was moved and used to restore the footpath from the playground down to the recreation ground on Saturday 22 February. The heroes of this epic and generous task included Susan Ingledew, Pete, Claire Langley, Chris, Leanne, John Bentley, Brian Thompson and his dog Elmo.

Many thanks to those people who renewed the gravel to the footpath on Saturday 22nd February - 1st class job, and I and my dog had a pleasant walk down this path (dog free from excrement at the moment - long may it remain that way??). It is very much appreciated by all pedestrians and dog walkers. Many thanks,
John E Smith

Where have all the Wheatleys gone? Part One.

Where have all the Wheatleys gone? Perhaps of more interest to me, where did they come from? A chance enquiry over a cup of tea at a Kingston House Open Day led to a conversation with Pat Smith, a meeting with Mrs Grant and a tour of the house which I had heard so much about as a child but had never visited. Quite a few are in Kingston churchyard, including my grandfather and uncle. I know where they are buried. Several more generations, beginning with John Wheatley in 1836, are there too, but I haven't a clue whereabouts.

My grandfather was Frederick William Wheatley who was born at Park Cottage in 1878, the son of Britford and Emma (nee Dabney). After leaving school he was apprenticed to Mr Ballard the local blacksmith. In August 1899 Frederick married Agnes Absalom (whose family lived at the Round House) at Hinton Waldrist church. The census of 1901 records them at Draycott Moor with their son Reginald aged 1. A second son John, always known as Jack, was born in 1903, followed by Norah in 1905 (my mother) and Ethel in 1907.

The family moved to 2, School Lane, Kingston and lived there for over twenty years. Frederick, Agnes and Jack moved to Craven Villas in about 1936. Reginald had moved to Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire to continue his employment as a groom to Baroness Ravensdale. My grandfather worked for Ballards for around 12 years, I still have a pair of "racing plates" made for a racehorse belonging to Mr Strauss.

According to my mother, he left the smithy because the fumes and general working conditions were affecting his chest and making him ill and so a job in the fresh air was recommended by the village doctor. He began working as a gardener at Kingston House for Mr Strauss MP and continued until he was 59, when the estate was sold. He then worked as a roadman for Berkshire County Council for another 11 years until he retired aged 70! As a younger man he had played cricket for the village and had been a Special Constable since 1914. (Cont. next month) D. Causer



Mr & Mrs William Wheatley, August 1949



Chef Speak

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

The dish I like to cook at home is a chargrilled ribeye steak with chunky chips, sprouting broccoli and béarnaise sauce and if it was to be my last meal that would be fine!

If you can get hold of a chargrill, a top ribeye steak, some sprouting broccoli and maris piper potatoes, béarnaise ingredients and a good Aussie Shiraz, if you follow the recipe and method you will enjoy a great meal.

For the sauce: Melt 250g of unsalted butter in the microwave and set aside somewhere warm but not hot. Put a shallow pan of water onto boil and turn down to a simmer. Put 100ml of white wine into a separate saucepan and reduce by boiling to 50ml then set aside. Put 3 large egg yolks into a metal or glass heat resistant round bottomed bowl, add the reduced vinegar and place the bowl over the pan of simmering water and whisking constantly cook the egg yolks out until they are thick but not scrambled. You must keep whisking the yolk mixture and you should have a thick sabayon which is smooth. Take the bowl off the heat and whisk the mix for a minute to just cool it slightly, then start trickling in the melted butter very slowly, incorporating all of the butter. Add a little salt and pepper to taste and some chopped tarragon and keep the sauce somewhere warm but not hot.

For the chunky chips: Peel and cut the potatoes to the size you want them and place into a saucepan, cover with cold water and bring to the boil, simmer for 4-5 mins then strain off and dry them on kitchen paper, dry them well. Heat the fryer to 140c-150c and fry the potatoes until lightly golden brown. Take out and turn the temperature up to 180c then return the chips to finish cooking until golden brown and crispy. Salt them and set aside somewhere warm.

For the vegetables and the Beef: Heat the chargrill up and then season the broccoli with sea salt, lightly oil it then fry on the grill for 2 mins each side then drain on kitchen paper set aside.

Brush the chargrill clean and get reasonably hot for the Beef. Season the steak and oil it very lightly, place the steak on the grill and get good coloured markings on both sides, cook it to a stage less than you want to eat it at and turn the heat off the grill, leaving the steak on it for 2 mins, then take the steak off the grill and place onto kitchen paper to rest before serving. Depending on how thick the steak is, resting time for cooked meat can be up to 2 thirds of the cooking time.

To serve: Assemble the rest of the ingredients on the plate, put the steak on, a good dollop of béarnaise, pour a glass of Australian Shiraz from Barossa Valley and enjoy!!!



KBS Broadband Group

Faster broadband is coming to Kingston Bagpuize and Southmoor in a year or so if we wait for BT to upgrade the Longworth exchange and our roadside cabinets but is this the best we can do?

A number of residents in Kingston Bagpuize and Southmoor have recently formed a community group to examine the alternatives to bringing better broadband to the community. In February, Gigaclear, an alternative commercial provider presented at a public event their superfast offering. The Gigaclear network would provide a brand new fibre optic network infrastructure, delivering broadband speeds of up to 70x the UK average. At present, the order in which BT will roll out its BDUK funded

upgrades to communities in Oxfordshire is unclear, and we have no say in the matter.

Gigaclear have offered to build a superfast fibre optic network, making available a pure fibre connection point to every property and capable of delivering 1000 Mbps (megabits per second), far outstripping the 24 Mbps likely to be had by residents after the BT FTTC (Fibre-to-the-Cabinet) upgrade, that will only benefit 95% of the community. If 30% of us (220 households) sign up to the Gigaclear service, then it will happen so the timing is completely in our hands. Gigaclear specializes in building fibre optic broadband networks in rural communities that are generally the last in the queue for services. They have built, are building, and are in negotiations to build networks in many more Oxfordshire communities, as well as in other counties.

Their networks are 'fibre to the premises' (FTTP), which as its name suggests means it's fibre from the property to the source of the Internet. FTTP is significantly faster, more robust, more stable and more consistent than 'fibre to the cabinet' (FTTC) which utilizes the existing copper telephone network from a fibre-enabled cabinet. Residents and business owners can choose speeds up to 1000 Mbps, roughly 500 times faster than what is currently available to the community, and those speeds are the same no matter how far you are from the cabinet. Speed with FTTC slows with distance from the cabinet.

Gigaclear ultrafast broadband costs are competitive with BT Infinity and give consistent upload & download speeds with unlimited usage. Plus, with fibre optic broadband there's no need to pay telephone line rental. Using one of the many internet telephony providers that serve millions of residential and business customers can give you free calls and more calling features starting at £6.00 per month (www.vonage.co.uk/gigaclear or www.skype.com) and you can keep your existing number.

Why do we need this? The future is digital. Think back 5-10 years, would you have predicted that broadband would be a utility essential to leading a modern life with access to all that the internet brings? The move to online and digital services is going to continue and the demand for more and more bandwidth will continue. Do we want to be stuck in the slow lane with the already out of date technology that BT will give us? Or do we want a world class network with enough capacity potential for generations ahead rather than a few years.

BT has always been reluctant to upgrade village facilities and is only doing so now because the government is paying for it (with our money!) This will not change if we keep their monopoly position intact. Gigaclear is a clear alternative and would break the BT monopoly so that we had competition for our custom.

To find out more about the Kingston Bagpuize & Southmoor Broadband group and the Gigaclear project for Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor visit www.kbsbroadband.org.uk and www.gigaclear.com/events for more information. *Bill Naylor, Secretary, KBS Broadband Group*

THE LAST WORD: Credit where it's due



We are indeed fortunate in this village to have a shop such as Southmoor Food & Wine, where a host of products can be purchased at almost any hour of the day. The range of goods stocked is amazing and many's the time I've been able to undertake an emergency DIY repair after visiting the hardware section. The staff are friendly and Tara herself is extremely pleasant and welcoming. From food and drink to light bulbs and pharmaceuticals the choice is there. The shop also uses their window to promote village activities and they collect copy for the KBS News and collate and pick the winners for the colouring competitions in the news. I hope we all appreciate having such a facility in our village.
