

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 42

Number 2

March 2015

Poles Apart

Now you see them.....



Now you don't....



Battle lines were drawn at a lively meeting of the Parish Council in February, when around fifteen villagers, who live near the Memorial Crescent, lobbied the Council for the removal of the flagpoles that have been there since Remembrance Day. There were strong feelings expressed from both sides of the argument. A few preferred the poles to be left up permanently pointing out the Memorial is for the whole village not just those that live by it, but they were in the minority at the meeting.

It was confirmed by the Parish Council that it has a licence to fly the flags all year round if they so desired but this didn't seem to win much favour on the night.

A great British compromise was eventually reached, so for a trial period the poles will be erected for the flying days by the Parish Council (see page 6 for dates) and taken down by the residents local to the Memorial Green.

Since the meeting a petition has been put together for the poles to be permanent, so the battle continues. What's your opinion? Send your thoughts to editorkbsnews@gmail.com

Bring back the Brownies to our Village

The local Brownie Unit closed in July 2014 due to lack of leaders. We are now looking to try and re-open the unit as there are several girls aged 7 and over in this Village and neighbouring villages who would like to join Brownies. There is a Rainbow Unit and a Guide Unit already in Kingston Bagpuize/Southmoor.

Brownies are girls aged seven to ten who do "cool stuff" and become a member of a Six and follow a programme called the Brownie Adventure. Brownies opens up a world of exciting challenges and the opportunity to try new things and to make brilliant friends.

Are you aged 18 to 65 years and interested in becoming a Brownie leader? Maybe you are new to the village and were a Brownie leader elsewhere. Perhaps you were a Brownie or Guide yourself and would like to now pass on your skills to girls aged 7 to 10 years in the village. Brownie Units meet for about 1 to 1.5 hours per week in term time. Full training will be given.

More information about Girlguiding can be found at www.girlguiding.org.uk. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Susan Baker on 01235 520074 or s.baker.guiding@btinternet.com



Caroline
Ashby



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: Lynda Newman 820527

Editor + Monthly Ads: Lance Bassett

Caroline Ashby,

Annual Advertising: Kathy Fletcher.

Treasurer: Roy Wolfe

KBSonline Rep: John Smith

Distribution: Nigel Beale 821591.

Copy date for next issue: BEFORE Monday 16th 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 One Stop shop.** 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, Lynda Newman, 21 Larch Close, Southmoor, OX13 5DD.** For annual box advertising please contact Kathy: advertskbsnews@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

If you needed further proof that the Country has gone crackers, it's the revelation that drivers moving out of the way for emergency vehicles to pass are being fined, courtesy of traffic enforcement cameras, if they stray even momentarily into a bus lane, that most hallowed of grounds.

The decision to prosecute of course has been taken out of the hands of humans by using these cameras. So if you behave like any decent human being and divert albeit briefly into a bus lane, yellow box or edge through a red light to let one of these vehicles pass, you can expect a hefty fine through the letterbox in short order as a thank you.

Of course 'safety' cameras throughout the land are considered cash cows by the powers that be, and in my experience seldom have to do with road safety. Bus lane cameras are often operated by local authorities and private firms on behalf of same, and are making killings from these grossly unfair fines. So be warned, next time an ambulance is roaring up behind you on the Botley Road, think on. These cameras have removed common sense from the traffic rules. By law, drivers should only move into a bus lane when directed by a police officer in uniform, if you can find one of course, but that's a whinge for another day.



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 | 2nd | 7:00pm | Parish Council Meeting - Southmoor Village Hall | 16 |
| Tuesday | 3rd | 7:15pm for 7:30pm | Southmoor & Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club - 'Stephen Relton - Jobs for Spring' - SVH | 18 |
| Wednesday | 4th | 10:00am - 12:00noon | Ferndale House Preparatory School Open Morning | |
| Wednesday | 4th | | **** Food Collection & Grey Bin Collection **** | |
| Thursday | 5th | 7:30pm | Longworth & District History Society AGM - Swallow Room SVH | 17 |
| Saturday | 7th | 10:00am - 12:00noon | Ferndale House Preparatory School Open Morning | |
| Monday | 9th | | Mobile Library ** 10.05am Waggon & Horses, SVH 10.45am, Bellamy Close 11.15 | |
| Tuesday | 10th | 7:30pm | Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Women's Institute - AGM - SVH | 15 |
| Wednesday | 11th | | **** Food Collection & Green Bin Collection & Brown Bin Collection **** | |
| Saturday | 14th | 7:00pm | Blandy Boffins Quiz - John Blandy School Hall | 24 |
| Monday | 16th | 4:00pm | Last Copy Date / Time for KBS News April 2015 Edition | 2 |
| Wednesday | 18th | | **** Food Collection & Grey Bin Collection **** | |
| Thursday | 19th | 10:30am - 12:00noon | Environmental Health Seminar for Village Hall Users - Sandford-on-Thames Village Hall | 12 |
| Thursday | 19th | 7:15pm for 7:30pm | Longworth and District History Soc - Graham Wren - 'Gordon Maclean Apple Man' - Southmoor Village Hall | 17 |
| Monday | 23rd | | Mobile Library ** 10.05am Waggon & Horses, SVH 10.45am, Bellamy Close 11.15 | |
| Monday | 23rd | 7:30pm | Southmoor Preschool AGM at Southmoor Preschool | 10 |
| Wednesday | 25th | | **** Food Collection & Green Bin Collection & Brown Bin Collection **** | |
| Friday | 27th | 7:30pm onwards | Southmoor Preschool and Baby & Toddler Social - Waggon & Horses | 10 |
| Sunday | 29th | 10:30am - 12:30pm | Pop Up Cafe & Mini Market in Fyfield Church. | 6 |
| June | | | | |
| Saturday | 27th | 1.00pm - 4.00pm | St John the Baptist Church - Summer Fete at Kingston House | 6 |

Regular Events each Month

| What | Where | Day | Time |
|--|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Apple Quilters | Southmoor Village Hall | 2nd & 4th Monday | 9.30am - 12am |
| Anchor Church Youth Group (14-18 yrs) | 1 Oxford Road | 1st & 3rd Sundays | 6.00pm - 7.45pm |
| Friends Church Youth Group (10-14 yrs) | Southmoor VH Swallow Rm | Sundays | 6.00pm - 7.30pm |
| French for Fun | Southmoor VH Swallow Rm | Wednesday | 9.30am - 11.00am |
| IYENGAR Yoga class | Longworth Village Hall | Monday Term Time Only | 7.30pm - 9.00pm |
| IYENGAR Yoga class | Longworth Village Hall | 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 | Southmoor Village Hall | Thursday | 9.00am - 12 noon |
| KB & S Gardening Club | Southmoor Village Hall | 1st Tuesday every month | 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 | Southmoor Village Hall | Friday Term Time Only | 7.30pm - 9.30pm |
| KB & S Women's Institute | Southmoor Village Hall | 2nd Tuesday | 7.30pm |
| Kingsmoor Community Club | Call 01865 820166 for venue | Tues, Wed, Fri | 10.00am - 3.00pm |
| 1st Longworth Beavers | The Scout Hut | Thursday | 6.00pm - 7.15pm |
| 1st Longworth Cubs | Contact | Tuesday | 7.00pm - 8.30pm |
| 1st Longworth Explorers | Faringdon | Wednesday | 7.30pm - 9.00pm |
| 1st Longworth Scouts | Road | Thursday | 7.30pm - 9.00pm |
| 1st Southmoor Guides | Southmoor Village Hall | Wednesday | 7.00pm - 8.30pm |
| Nordic Walking Classes | Call Lisa 07885 635367 for details | See Advertisers Corner (page 20) for days / times | |
| Serendipity Over 60s Club Meeting | Southmoor VH Swallow Rm | 2nd Wednesday | 2pm - 4pm |
| Southmoor Baby & Toddler Group | Southmoor Village Hall | Friday Term Time Only | 10.00am - 11.30am |
| Southmoor Exercise & Dance | Southmoor Village Hall | Wednesday Evenings | 7.45 Exercise 8.45 Dance |
| Southmoor Rainbows | The Scout Hut, Faringdon Road | Monday Term Time Only | 5.45pm - 6.45pm |
| 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:

adverts-kbsnews@googlemail.com.

KINGSTON BAGPUIZE CHURCH NOTICES

NB NEW WEBSITE: <http://stjb.churchinsight.com/>

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sunday 1st March | 9.00am | Holy Communion | Speaker: Revd David Pickering |
| | 10.30am | Morning Worship | Speaker: Revd David Pickering |
| Sunday 8th March | 9.00am | Holy Communion | Revd David Pickering |
| | 10.30am | Questions of Life Service | Speaker: Mrs Anne Curtis |
| Sunday 15th March | 9.00am | Holy Communion | Revd David Pickering |
| Mothering Sunday | 10.30am | Mothering Sunday All-Age Service | Speaker: Revd David Pickering |
| Sunday 22nd March | 9.00am | Holy Communion | Speaker: Revd Andrew Symes |
| | 10.30am | Café Church | Speaker: Revd Andrew Symes |
| Sunday 29th March | 9.00am | Holy Communion | Revd David Pickering |
| Palm Sunday | 10.30am | Palm Sunday Communion | Revd David Pickering |

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

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

CAFÉ CHURCH: On Sunday 22nd: instead of a regular church service, a relaxed time of good conversation in the Church Room over bacon baps, coffee and croissants, with a fascinating talk to lead us into an interesting discussion. All welcome.

MOTHERING SUNDAY: On Sunday 15th: it's a special service every year, with flowers for all mothers, and a joyful celebration for all the family.

OUR NEW WEBSITE: Just put the link above into your browser, and see our church's new website. Thanks to some great work from Chris Carpenter, we have an exciting and informative new resource in our shiny new website. Do take a look at it.

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 Fridays).



Fyfield Baptist Chapel

Morning Service & Sunday School Sunday 11.00 am

Communion monthly 2nd Sundays
location: (south side of main village)
Digging Lane, Fyfield OX13 5LY

more information:
www.fyfieldchapel.org.uk
info@fyfieldchapel.org.uk
01865 769473

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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/>



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There are now classes six days a week with start times ranging from 6.30am to 6.15pm and many new daytime classes in-between! Times and class type, from social to workout, to suit everyone!

For more information or to book a free taster session call Lisa 07885635367 or email - lisa@oxfordshirefitness.co.uk



VILLAGE VOICES



I instigated the Village War Memorial and after attending the Parish Council meeting in February, I would like to say that if the flag poles are taken down I WILL NOT be laying a wreath on Remembrance Day. I would like to see the poles stay up permanently. *John Weston*



With Village Voices we provide a lively forum in which to air your thoughts. We endeavour to print all your letters but we must have your name and address. These details will not be published if you indicate as such. Send your correspondence and thoughts to editorkbsnews@gmail.com

Dear Editor, I look forward to your Whinge every month so thought I would have one of my own. Not only do we have to put up with the extra traffic we take our lives into our hands just going to the shops, contractors seem to think the only way to keep death off the road is to park on the pavement, which is an offence. I think the PCSO's need to be around in the mornings, early mind, to catch these drivers. We now have had a hit and run with one of our lovely ladies in the Log Cabin finding the side of her car pushed in. Whoever did this, did not even have the decency to find out who's car it was. They just drove off like cowards. Longworth Road is treated like a racetrack every morning as these people go to work on Southmoor Grange. Oh for peace and quiet to descend on our lovely village again! *Linda Pearce* (Well said Linda. You have the job as Deputy Whingemaster-Ed.)



Oxford Road litter

It's such a shame that one of the best walks in the area, along the old Oxford Road, is spoilt by dog fouling and litter. The whole stretch seems to be used as a dumping ground for all manner of debris including what appears to be hundreds of empty beer cans. Indeed litter is becoming a problem village wide. It is such a pity as we live in a beautiful area and the dropping of litter is so unsightly and dangerous, especially as we have so many litter bins provided by the parish council. *Name & address supplied*

Wall of Friendship

We thought we would introduce this feature in the News. Each month we would print the wall with the messages sent by village readers. It could be for anything, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Easter, Christmas, get well soon, anything really or just a simple message. If we get enough messages we'll give it a try. Send yours to editorkbsnews@gmail.com



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Village Notice Board

CAN I PLEASE ASK DISTRIBUTORS TO CONTACT ME ON 820775 IF THEY NEED MORE - OR LESS COPIES FOR DELIVERY. WITH ALL THE NEW HOUSES GOING UP IN THE VILLAGE WE WILL BE LOOKING FOR MORE DISTRIBUTORS EVENTUALLY FOR SOUTHMOOR GRANGE AND ORCHARD GATE. THIS IS VOLUNTARY AND JUST ONCE A MONTH - USUALLY THE LAST WEEKEND OF EACH MONTH. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OUR BAND OF DISTRIBUTORS WHEN THE TIME ARISES PLEASE CONTACT ME. THANKYOU. PAT

POP-UP CAFE & MINI MARKET

Sunday 29th March from 10.30 until 12.30 in Fyfield Church. A range of stalls as well as a cafe. The proceeds are for both Fyfield and Tubney Churches.

War Memorial Flag flying days

Dates the Memorial Crescent flags will be flown for 2015 are:- Queen's Birthday April 21st, St. George's day April 23rd, Armed Forces day June 27th, Remembrance Day and Armistice Day 8th & 11th November.

Welcome Nigel



Nigel Beale has taken over the responsibility for the distribution of the KBS News. Nigel has lived in the village for eight years and says he always enjoys reading the magazine and is looking forward to helping out as part of the News team.

Council Tax

The Vale of White Horse District Council has voted to freeze council tax for 2015/2016. This is due apparently to millions of pounds of back office savings the Council has made and therefore able to protect front line services and invest in new facilities for the Vale. (I wonder if we'll get some?)

Juliet Dyer



Juliet Dyer, a resident of Kingston Bagpuize for many years, passed away in Hadleigh, Suffolk, on 30th January at the age of 81. Many will have known her as a painter and sculptor, who was active in many local art societies. She also

exhibited her work with the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colour and the Royal Academy of the West, in Bath, and selling as far afield as the United States. Even after she had given up creating art herself, greatly enjoyed sharing ideas with fellow artists. In her younger days she was also a very dynamic art teacher in primary and secondary schools, and for many years taught art classes in her studio to both adults and children.

She and her husband Robert retired to Kingston Bagpuize from Faringdon and settled into village life with their small dog, Megan. Even when her health was poor, particularly after Robert's death in 2013, Juliet could be seen out walking with the dog, and animals were always a great inspiration for her art work.

Her children, Jeff and Kate Dyer, would like to thank the many friends, neighbours and service providers in the village that helped Juliet in her declining years. In particular, staff at the Post Office and at the Hinds Head who went out of their way to make things easier for her where they could. We have been similarly heartened by the many kind words we have received from friends and neighbours, at the time of her funeral and since. Thank you all.



St. John the Baptist Church

SUMMER FETE

Kingston Bagpuize House on Saturday
27th June 2015, 1pm – 4pm

It will soon be time for our summer fete again in the beautiful grounds of Kingston Bagpuize House. The date this year is Saturday 27th June from 1.00pm to 4.00pm and we very much hope you'll be part of it. All the normal attractions will be there including an exciting main event, teas, cakes, strawberries and cream, Pimms, craft stalls and a fantastic children's fancy dress parade.

The cost of a table is only £12 for village organisations and £10 for charities and what you do with it is up to you – we'd be happy to have a chat about any new and exciting ideas. As usual we ask you to bring your own gazebo or tent. We might be able to provide cover, but it will be on a first come, first served basis so get your booking in quickly! If you'd like to join us please let me know. We very much look forward to having you at the fete. Margo Evans Tel: 01865 820900

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FEEL LIKE EATING OUT TONIGHT? No: 23. The Packhorse Eating Inn, Steventon

For a long time now I have heard how good this hostelry is, so I was pleased when I had the opportunity to try the fare.

We in fact called when passing to book a table for four for 7.30pm a couple of nights hence.

So things didn't start well when we arrived at 7.35pm to be told the table had been booked for 7.00pm. Ummm....an omen methinks. No matter, we proceeded to our table, noting how full

the restaurant was for a Wednesday night, albeit running up to Christmas. In fairness, the waitress, Kathryn, did warn us that there would be some delays as they were so busy, along with a list of dishes that were off the menu. However, the wait for her to take our order was bad enough but we seemed to go from here to eternity waiting for the starters to arrive.

Here I have to say Kathryn was worth her weight in gold. She said it would be slow and if we needed her to just call or snap our fingers.

The starters arrived, less one they had just run out of, and a second choice was substituted. I went for the black pudding with a slice of bacon and an egg. Delicious to be honest. Proper food, the kind that we ate when we had an empire.

Eventually the main course turned up and it looked good. Unfortunately it was mostly cold but when Kathryn hove to and asked if all was OK I informed her of the temperature deficiency and the offending dish was whisked away.

I had ordered the rib-eye steak with accompanying mushroom, fries, peas, baby tomatoes etc. In fairly short time a replacement was brought to the table with extra onion rings, tomatoes, a new steak also with extra fries and profuse apologies. Whatever they are paying Kathryn isn't enough.

Alas, the steak was mainly uneatable through the amount of gristle but by now I had given up. The bride had what she described as the worst meal she had ever had. This was tasteless hard salmon cold everything else. She gave up before me and just wanted out. Nobody wanted puddings especially as again several were off the menu. Again Kathryn appeared and offered us coffee on the house for our troubles.

Kathryn is being let down by poor management here. Rarely have I seen a waitress under so much pressure and keeping her cool. What a disappointment. I can only assume the Eating Inn or Packhorse as it is also known has changed hands since achieving the glowing reports I have received in the past. The total cost of this debacle was just over £75 for four including a very acceptable bottle of Malbec, so you couldn't argue with the price, practically everything else though. So we shan't be 'Eating Inn' for a while. *Eton Lovett*



THE KBS NEWS WINE LIST: WINES OF THE MONTH

Hopefully the snow will have finished and we will just have the March winds to contend with and what better way to cheer you up than a nice bottle of Shiraz. The bottle we have chosen is called The Last Stand Shiraz from the McLaren Vale in Australia.

Premium quality fruit and mature vines have produced a wine with great balance, length and fruit intensity. Dark cherry and plum dominate the nose with hints of spice, these flavours carry on to the palate and integrate nicely with the soft, supple, savoury tannins.

Unlike a lot of wines from the McLaren Vale, known for its heat, this wine is sourced from the cooler sub-regions of Seaview and Kangarilla, which sit under the Southern Mount Lofty Ranges and are renowned for producing some of Australia's best Shiraz. The bottle came from The Oxford Wine Company, priced at £8.69. On the other hand, if you prefer white wines, particularly at a reasonable price, then do try the Italian Pinot Grigio Del Veneto 2013, from Lidl at £4.49. This wine is pale yellow in colour and has a pleasant bouquet elegantly balanced with notes of citrus and a hint of fruit, and is a most enjoyable wine. Cheers, *The Wine Quartet*



WORDS OF WISDOM

Never test the depth of the water with both feet. Maharishi Plucknuckel

**The KBS News is delivered to every house in the village.
Extra copies are available from the Post Office and One Stop shop.**



Southmoor Preschool

Toy Donation week 2nd to 6th & AGM 23rd March

Preschool will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) this month. The positions of chair and treasurer are becoming vacant with current committee members' children moving up to school. Therefore, the preschool is appealing for volunteers to fill these roles because, as a charity, without this we are unable to open our doors.

These roles are unpaid but are tremendously fulfilling and a great way to become more involved in your community. The 'Outstanding' Ofsted report the preschool received in January is also testament to the commitment the staff and remaining committee have in supporting anyone wishing to take on these roles in this thriving childcare setting. So if you are a parent, grandparent or guardian of a child at preschool or looking for a volunteering project (subject to CRB checks) the committee would love to hear from you. To find out more about these roles or joining our newly formed fundraising committee (Friends of Southmoor Preschool) please contact preschool.

Do you have any unwanted toys or books in good condition? If so please donate them to the preschool either for use with the children there, or to raise charitable funds. We are particularly in need of books with sound buttons, touch and feel books (e.g Usbourne that's not my...) and general story books aimed at 2-6 year olds as the ones we have need replacing. Cars, trucks, plastic and wooden toys, fairies, dolls, bikes and trikes...bring it all and we will find them a good home! If you have a donation to make but need help with collection please call Marie 07904524676.

The children, staff and committee would all like to say a Big "Thank You" to developers Taylor Wimpey for their very generous donation to preschool which we received in December. The money has been spent on some amazing new toys for our indoor area which are already much loved by the children.

Don't forget if you are interested in an "Outstanding" preschool place or increasing your child's sessions, we currently still have several places left for this year so please contact manager Jackie as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. All children who are 3 in the term following their 3rd birthday are entitled to 15 hours free early years education! Email southmoorpre-school@live.co.uk Tel: 01865 821505.

Dates for your Diary: 2nd to 6th March: Toy Donation Week drop off donations @ Preschool

23rd March: AGM, 19:30 @ Southmoor Preschool 27th March: Joint Preschool and Baby & Toddler Social, 19:30 onwards @ Waggon & Horses, Southmoor. Marie Siviter (Committee Member)



Vacancies at Millets Farm, Frilford

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For further information on these roles visit www.milletsfarmcentre.com



Out & About with KBS News

Kicking off our Out & About competition for 2015, Julia & Brian Langford, from the Hanney Road, display their copy of KBS News in the beautiful island of Curacao in the Caribbean. Don't forget there's a £10 M&S Voucher for the picture taken with the News the furthest away from the village and another voucher for the most interesting/unusual photograph. Results at the end of the year so don't forget to take your KBS News with you on holiday.



JOHN BLANDY AFTER SCHOOL GARDENING CLUB.

After a winter break and the half term holiday, pupils were once again keen to return to their raised garden beds, and to see with joy the daffodil bulbs planted in the autumn peeping through the soil. Sadly many of the sprouting broad beans planted have disappeared along with the spring cabbages, certainly due to pigeons. During the coming weeks the children will help prepare the raised beds and have the opportunity of selecting the seeds and plants both flowers and vegetables that they would like to see grow and for them to share during the season ahead. The children are grateful for the help and guidance from Teacher Assistant Melanie Ferguson, and the support by their parents and the S&KB Gardening Club, who regularly attend to supervise the activity. *Ron Green.*

Southmoor Baby & Toddler Group



It's been a busy time for the baby and toddler group with new faces coming along every week. We've really enjoyed getting to know some of you who've recently arrived in the village – or those who are just new to the joys of parenthood!

To celebrate Valentine's Day, the children made some lovely cards. It might not have been romantic, but it was definitely good fun.

After the half term break we're planning another special day based around one of our favourite stories. This time we've chosen *What The Ladybird Heard* by Julia Donaldson. It'll be a similar format to last year's very successful Gruffalo Day and will take place on 13 March. There'll be storytelling, themed craft activities and for anyone who fancies dressing up, come in something red or something related to the book. With a whole cast of farmyard animals (as well as a couple of dastardly thieves) we should have some great costumes.

Looking a bit further ahead, there'll be an egg-citing Easter party on 27 March to round off the term.

The group meets on Friday mornings during term time from 10:00-11:30 at Southmoor Village Hall. It's only £2 per family – the first visit is free and with that comes a snack for the little folk and refreshments for the grown-ups. Mums, dads, grandparents, carers – everyone is welcome, so please come and join us! Email southmoorbabytoddlergroup@hotmail.co.uk if you'd like to know more. *Victoria King*

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NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

Good news for all users of the Village Hall. Following the meeting of the Trustees it was agreed not to increase the hire charges from April 2015. The hall fees and charges were last reviewed in 2013 and we are keen to support our regular users, the village clubs, and organisations. We hope that they will continue using the hall and attract new members as the village population

expands. The private bookings for parties and business meetings will also remain unchanged.

Other news; a timber log retaining wall along the footpath next to the Village Hall copse in Draycott Road is due to be put in place soon by Taylor Wimpy. To enhance the area further a natural dry stone wall is to be erected leading to the hall entrance, and we are working on the possibility of introducing an art feature within the wall. The Village Hall Trustees are still anxiously waiting for news from the Vale of White Horse DC over their allocation of money from Section 106 agreement following the Draycott Road planning application. If successful this money will go towards improvements to the hall.

We recently welcomed Alan Atkins, who has kindly offered his time to help with the maintenance of the hall. Alan's experience and knowledge will be greatly appreciated by us all. Thanks also to the Parish Council who have agreed to continue cutting the grass during the coming season.

New Allergen Law; new regulations came into place on 13th December 2014 with regard to ways allergen information appears on labels and on food that is pre-packed, sold or served. The new regulations may effect clubs and users who hire the Village Hall, and to help clubs who prepare and serve food, ORCC have arranged a free seminar led by a local Environmental Health Officer who will provide information especially tailored for users of village halls. The seminar will be held on Thursday 19th March from 10.30 am until 12 noon at Sandford-on-Thames Village Hall Those interested in attending or would like further information should contact Lynne Newin at ORCC telephone No: 01865 883488 email: lynne.newin@oxonrcc.org.uk Ron Green.

SERENDIPITY OVER 60'S CLUB

Our meeting was lively with plenty of laughs whilst getting our brains in gear for some fun games and a couple of recitations. Tea and coffee, cakes and biscuits were enjoyed, and raffle and sales table as usual. Ideas were discussed for future meetings, which are an Easter bonnet parade in April, a lunch out in May and an outing for a cream tea when the warmer weather is with us. We will also have a craft afternoon later in the programme NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME. Just £2 a month. The March meeting will be a games/quiz session. For details contact Pat 820775



ED VAIZEY MP Parish Newsletter

A subject which I know is close to the hearts of many of my constituents is Community Pubs. Since the Localism act brought in the right to bid, people across the country have nominated around 600 pubs which have then been listed as Assets of Community Value. These are assets – land and buildings – that are important to the community and have traditionally been used by the community. Once submitted if the asset comes up for sale a special window is opened to give the community the chance to buy the asset before it goes on the open market. Pubs have proved to be the most listed type of asset! By the end of March the Government is planning to bring forward more legislation so that in future when a pub is listed as an Asset of Community Value a planning application will be needed for a change of use or demolition. Any planning application will be considered in the light of national policy as well as Neighbourhood Plans. Hopefully this will lead to 1000's more of our most valuable pubs becoming Assets of Community Value and retain them at the heart of our communities.

Screening films is also another fantastic way to get communities and people from all walks of life together. A new project has been designed by the British Film institute and funded by the National Lottery to support groups launching and running their own Community Cinema. It aims to bring the cinema experience to more people across the UK particularly those who are unable to enjoy regular screenings because of social and economic reasons or simply because they live too far from the cinema. This project includes advice on how to actually start up a cinema, funding, licencing and how and where to book films. Details can be found at www.neighbourhoodcinema.org.uk it is well worth looking at if this is an idea which interests you and your friends and neighbours.

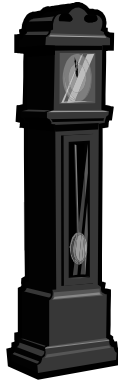
As ever please feel free to contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk.

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KINGSTON BAGPUIZE WITH SOUTHMOOR W.I.

Our speaker for the February meeting was David Fowler who is part of the oldest cheese making family in England continuing the tradition of handcrafted cheeses at the dairy in Warwickshire. He gave the members a very interesting talk on the history of his family business and the cheese making process of their 15 varieties with samples to taste which were enjoyed with a glass of wine. The hostesses provided excellent refreshments afterwards. Next month's meeting is on 10th March and will be our Annual Meeting where next years committee will be elected. The competition will be "an animal photo". Our auction will take place in April and donations can be brought along to the meeting in March.

Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7-30pm in Southmoor Village Hall. New members are always welcome and details are available on our website and Facebook page. *Karen King*



KBS CAFE @ SOUTHMOOR



Are you new to the village? Maybe you're a young mum with small children who are looking for new playmates, or an older person wanting to make new friends? There's a warm welcome waiting for you at the KBS Café.

We have welcomed the arrival of the "Kingston Codgers' Coffee Club", a group of older villagers who meet at the café on the last Thursday of the month.

The café is open every Thursday from 9am until noon, in the main hall at Southmoor Village Hall, Draycott Road. We serve Fair Trade tea, coffee and hot chocolate, orange and blackcurrant squash, bacon sandwiches and a selection of (mostly) home-made cakes and scones, including some dairy-free and gluten-free options. There are toys for the children and newspapers and magazines for the grown-ups. We always welcome new volunteers to come on our rota of helpers. It only means helping for one morning about every two months. If you are interested, please contact Jenny Bone on 01865 820368. We look forward to meeting you. If anyone needs a lift please contact one of us on the numbers below.

"We are friends you haven't met yet"

Jenny Bone (820368) Carole Watts (821710)

Scam postcards are being delivered to UK residents' homes claiming that a parcel containing "jewellery" is waiting for the homeowner.

The personally addressed postcards say:

"The office is attempting to reach you. To claim this parcel and accept this offer, you must telephone the number below immediately and arrange for a delivery. The item is prepaid, but a processing and delivery fee of £10 must be remitted. This fee can be paid only by telephone and only with a credit card (VISA or MasterCard). This is your only notification"

If you call the 020 number you are asked to pay £10 by credit card. Victims who have reported this to Action Fraud have said that the automated service told them the package would be delivered the same day, but did not receive anything.

Action Fraud has received several reports of this recently occurring fraud and this information has been assessed by National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) resulting in disruption of the fraudster's phone number. Also be on the lookout for slight variations of this scam - which use different phone numbers and delivery items. **If you receive one of these delivery cards, do not pay any money and report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or by using the online reporting tool.**



Logs for Labour: Would you like free firewood, or do you have a woodland that needs managing? The Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment's "Logs for Labour" programme aims to promote sustainable use of woodfuel by running events where volunteers help to manage woodlands in return for logs. The events are 2-3 hours long and could involve coppicing hazel, thinning trees, or piling up brash. Bring sturdy gloves, shoes and a saw (hand tools only allowed)... or let us know if your woodland needs the help of volunteers. Information about forthcoming events is at www.oxonwoodfuel.org.uk, or 'like' us at www.facebook.com/oxonwood.

Riki Therivel, 01865 243488.

The Waggon and Horses - Events for March 2015

- Disco Bingo Saturday 7th March 9.00pm
- Quiz Night Sunday 8th March 8.00pm
- Mother's Day Sunday 15th March
- Solo Musician - Kevin Barrett Saturday 21st March
- Take Away Fish and Chips and a selection of Take Away Curries available during food service times •



NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

The February meeting of the KBS Parish Council took place on Monday 2nd February in the Village Hall together with 25 members of the Public.

Public Participation: 1 Several residents of the Oxford Close Area objected to the proposal that flagpoles, forming part of the War Memorial site, should remain permanently erected. A feeling was expressed that they had been excluded from decisions that affected them (although the opportunity to attend Parish Council meetings had always existed, with an agenda published). After a prolonged discussion, (and some heated words between other members of the public), and in the interests of Village harmony, an agreement was reached to accept the offer that the concerned residents would dismount the flagpoles after each event.

2 A group of neighbours from the A415 Abingdon Rd / Oxford Close area have responded to the consultation on a proposed Zebra Crossing pointing out it would be badly sited in relation to the nearby housing. In addition, the proposed design takes no account of current or projected traffic flows on the A415 or traffic from the Faringdon Rd. It is felt that the crossing needs to be pedestrian controlled including a link to traffic lights to control the flow of traffic, otherwise the proposed crossing could prove to be a hazard to pedestrians, rather than a benefit.

An OCC cabinet meeting will make a decision in February, and the group will make representations at this time. The parish council has also written supporting the various views on traffic control

3 Complaints were received, yet again, as to the amount of litter and Dog excrement and hazardous items (sharps) on the Old Oxford Rd. The worst section is to the east of the Traffic gate. The VW HDC contractor (Biffa) will be contacted to request a clear up, and the local dog warden advised that previous attempts to rectify the situation have proved ineffective. Perhaps a local litter blitz on the area should be considered with equipment provided by both District and Parish Councils.

4 The issue of the prolonged repair work to the sewer pipe between Fir Tree Close and the Faringdon Rd. was raised. This is causing a degree of inconvenience to many, especially to the elderly, and to parents taking children to school. A meeting with councillors will have occurred by press date. 5 A question was raised as to planning consent for floodlights erected by the Thames Water contractor in the compound in Bellamy Close, which are proving intrusive.

6 Open reach have now installed all the fibre enabled cabinets and the service is expected to be available by June 2015. 7 The issue of training in the use of the Defibrillator was raised. Now arranged for Sat March 14, at 10am. Village Hall.

Report from District and County councillor: Apologies received for absence, and requested any issues in relation to the A420 between Oxford and Swindon be identified to inform a working group which will contribute to the new local transport plan which is being formulated (most of which should be pretty obvious, in that it will not cope with the proposed increase in housing along the area identified. Chair)

Planning: Applications received - NONE Decisions: 13 Norwood Avenue - Refused.

19 Lime Grove - Refused 1 Latton Close - Granted For full details, please refer to February minutes.

Accounts: Please refer to February minutes for details,

Road Safety: Re last month's complaints re One Stop Stores, a spokeswoman claimed that all deliveries occur after 8am, drivers are considerate to other road users and it was beyond their control to avoid simultaneous deliveries. Residents, who have contrary evidence, please advise the Parish Clerk.

O.C.C. are holding £8K from the development at The Firs, Hanney Rd. Highways had suggested a speed activated sign, with which members saw no value. Further ideas to be sought

Land to be leased or purchased under S106 agreements: There has been no progress with any of the agreements so far this year; the Council's solicitor will be consulted for an update.

Village amenities: Recreation Grounds: General maintenance is required. Burial Ground: Christmas Wreaths to be removed. War Memorial: see public participation as regards flagpole erection and dismounting. Flag flying days for 2015 will be Queen's Birthday 21st April, St. George's Day 23 April, Armed Forces Day 27 June, Remembrance Day / Armistice Day 8/11th November. Recent press coverage has highlighted the apparent lack of recognition of the 70th anniversary of VE Day 8th May 1945. Perhaps the flags should fly then? East Bound Bus stop Latton Close, Concrete wall: A member of the public had expressed concerns over the safety of the block slab wall. Its condition has deteriorated over the years and is considered unsightly, although not immediately dangerous. The Clerk will enter in to consultation with the present owners of the properties concerned with a view to replacement. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 2nd March, in the Village Hall at 7p.m. *Brian Forster, Chair KBS Parish Council.*



Kingsmoor Community Club at Hinton Waldrist

– Why would anyone want to go there ?????

This month we have asked some members this question and hope it might encourage others to give us a try. We do not sit in a circle staring at each other..... read what they have to say!....."Well run, good atmosphere, I like the things we do, suitable for men and women. The meals are excellen." - Robert . "Very friendly, craft work is easy and enjoyable." –

Greetings card made by club members Norah "I come out from being indoors all the time, you can attend 1-3 days a week, I am sure you would enjoy it, gain good friendships, do all sorts of things and have lovely meals." – Greta... "Friendly, especially good for you when you live alone. All wonderful" – Sylvia... "Love it, you meet people, make things, do everything, just a wonderful place to come to". – Joan..... "It is a place where you feel happy and cared for. We are a small group who are all friendly. Our carers are excellent, they listen to us, help us with any worries and treat us as valuable members of the community. The volunteer helpers join in with all our activities and become friends. We are never bored, games, crafts, drawing, painting, puzzles and quizzes . You can choose from so many things, we regularly have visits from musicians, singers, people from the museums, falconry display and much more. We also go on visits to places such as The Ashmolean museum, Milestones at Basingstoke, Bowling at the Kassam Stadium, trips on the Oxford Canal and a visit to the sea-side such as Weston Super Mare. Just a few of our activities which all can join in, the able, those with frames or those in a wheelchair etc.'We have a lovely cooked meal each day and transport is provided for those who need it with a friendly helpful driver. So why not join us ? We would make you very welcome." – from a club member So you see why our members enjoy Kingsmoor Club? We have vacancies so come along and fill them.

Contact Gwyne on 01865 820166.

Longworth & District History Society

The AGM will be held on 5th March, in the Swallow Room at Southmoor Village Hall at 7.30pm. There will be the business meeting, and then a short talk by Sue Burnay about The Berkshire Local History Association. There will also be a gallery of photos taken on the summer outings of the History Society. Refreshment will be available. Please come along and share your thoughts on the future of the society.

The next meeting will take place 19th March in Southmoor Village Hall 7.15 for a 7.30pm. start. Graham Wren will talk about Gordon Maclean - the 'Apple Man' of Kingston Bagpuize and Southmoor. Graham is a wildlife photographer, lecturer, and Tour guide. We will hear about our local orchards and how they were managed and the fruit they produced. Kathy Fletcher 01865 820193

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

The Way We Were



Football on the recreation ground for Village Millenium in 1977



"It's a new anti-depressant - instead of swallowing it, you throw it at anyone who appears to be having a good time..."

Inspired by Don Viney's poem for Cyril Glidden last month, we thought we would install a Poet's Corner feature for budding Poet Laureates. Our first piece is by KBS News Chair, Pat Smith. If you have a poem you would like us to print send it to: editorkbsnews@gmail.com

They walk around the village,
Come wind and rain and shine,
They clock up lots of mileage,
In autumn, winter, spring and summer time.

They love their little garden,
Always colourful and neat,
He is often in his garage,
His carvings to complete.

Don and Betty Viney will always stop and chat,
No matter what the weather,
They are always up for that.

So my apologies go out to Don,
I don't want to steal your fame,
But long may you both go on,
Walking down these country lanes.
(Well they were lanes once!!)



KINGSTON BAGUIZE & SOUTHMOOR BOWLS CLUB

Last month the Club helped Syd Ilott celebrate his ninetieth birthday with a party for him at the Clubhouse. Syd joined the club when it started in the Village Hall as a short mat club. When the Club obtained the plot of land in the Oxford Road he was there with Beryl, his wife, helping to establish the Club as it is today. He is still bowling to this day. May the Famous Grouse keep flowing Syd and see you on the green.

Unfortunately we were broken into in February. Not much damage done and not much taken. We were one of four Sports clubs broken into in this area. Shame they were not identified, but the Police are on their trail.

All Members have by now received their renewal notices. Some of our more senior Bowlers have hung up their woods but stay with us as Social Members. We have gained some new members, one from the new Pye development in the Village, so maybe more will follow suit. Anyone interested in joining us will be made most welcome. For more information please contact our Secretary, Peter on 01865 820817

Mick Fuller (01865 820818)



Southmoor & Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club

Spring gardening tips and talk

March is a wonderful month - longer days and a warmer sun herald spring. There's no excuse not to get into the garden, so these are our top tips for the month:-

Ô Sow seeds for vegetables, using a good seed compost. Germinate

and grow in a south-facing windowsill or greenhouse.

Ô Prune buddleias, roses and evergreen hedging if you've not already.

Ô Pop to a local garden centre and try planting out onion sets - they're easy to grow and eating your own is a great experience.

Ô Chit potatoes. Potatoes need to 'chit' (sprouting) before planting next month. I use an eggbox and give them plenty of light on a south-facing windowsill.



If this has whetted your horticultural appetite, then do come to our meeting this month. Stephen Relton, a tutor at Waterperry Gardens and BBC Oxford gardening expert, will give a talk on "Jobs for Spring" - telling us what to be getting on with now.

Details: Tuesday 3rd March, 7.15 for 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. Non-members £3; members free. Tea and coffee served after the talk.

For more information about the club, call Rebecca on 01865 820793 or email skbgardeningclub@gmail.com.

Paul Gill, Secretary.

Kingston Bagpuize Cricket Club

KBCC have openings for additional players at all ages. Enthusiasm and Interest is the only qualification needed. We'll coach you and make sure you enjoy your game at whatever level suits you best.

Junior Indoor nets start on Saturday 28 February for 5 weeks at Abingdon School.

Kwik cricket - Under 11's - 13:30-14:30 • Under 13's-Under17's - 14:30-15:30 • £3 per session

If you would like to join in please contact Hannah Woodley - hannahspan76@hotmail.com

For adult nets contact Richard Woodley - oxhammer@hotmail.co.uk CONTACT US NOW



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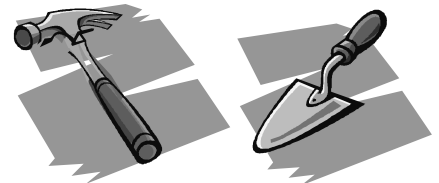
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Bats in the Belfry

I once owned an impossibly well-bred, impossibly mad, impossibly impossible thoroughbred ex-racehorse, still described today as one of the most difficult horses ever produced by Barry Hills at his Lambourn yard. I still have a memory of him standing up on his hind legs towering over my 11-year-old daughter on the end of the rope – she kept her head, and a firm contact on the rope, shouting “No Charlie! Get down! Naughty Boy!” - Charlie got down ... Four years ago, when I had my first

lesson ringing full-circle mounted church bells I was struck by the similarities – the huge weight of the bell, the power that could be unleashed, the need for understanding, the right response and above all, the need for good handling and to maintain contact.

Imagine a bell weighing half a ton – and 50 feet of rope – strength has nothing to do with it – you could never control that bell by brute force. You may as well have an elephant on the end of the rope – or a mad ex-racehorse! In learning to handle your bell well you learn to let the bell do virtually all the work. You learn respect.

The world of the ringer opens up places you would probably never otherwise imagine. I once ‘broke in’ to Bath Abbey when I heard the bells ringing. Eventually a verger came to ask if I needed assistance, and when I explained that I was a ringer, rather than throw me out he directed me to a ‘secret’ spiral stairway hidden at the back of one of the chapels. Round and round, up and up and up ... imagine my delight when eventually I emerged onto the roof of the Abbey and looked down into the Roman Baths and over the rooftops of Bath! Picking my way over the lead roof across to the central tower I was welcomed by the ringers. Ten bells, unusually mounted anti-clockwise, with a 33cwt tenor (over 1½ imperial tons) rung, I know she will not mind me saying this, by a diminutive lady with a lovely, welcoming smile. And I rang there – what a privilege!. What an experience! And did you know that the same founder of those bells, Abraham Rudhall, described as the leading founder of his day, cast a ring of five bells for Hinton Waldrist in 1709, of which three still survive?

I did meet a bat in the belfry once, here in Hinton – a pretty little long-eared bat momentarily disorientated by the bright light and my sudden appearance. We looked one another in the eye as he flew round and round, before he recovered his bearings and retired into his dark hideaway in the ceiling.

There are those who say that I am the one who is bats in the belfry. I go up there and the bells tell a history of hundreds of years, they tell a story of pure Englishness – did you know that full-circle ringing is virtually unique to England and is an English invention dating from the 16th Century? These days it has been imitated in a few (mainly) English-speaking countries, but they have nothing like the vast proliferation of full-circle bell towers that we have in this country. Up in the belfry I witness the voices of our villages in ages past – the passage of the Church day at the centre of village life, the Lords of the Manors, the ringers whose peals are celebrated on the peal boards, sometimes revealing enormous feats of stamina – or madness. But the bells get you like that. Their voices are not choked by the frailty of time, but how often today do you hear them chime its passage?.

Sometimes the bells have been most eloquent by their very silence, as in WWII, our very Englishness muted, only to be rung to warn of an invasion – or in Victory. Today the bells are still bound to the life of the church, but we also hear them proclaim the joy of our civil celebrations, the Millennium, the Olympics, the Royal Weddings, our Monarch’s Diamond Jubilee, the village fete... - Or half-muffled they cry out in deepest mourning for our dead.

I am discovering an amazing world – from the bells in the lovely Cotswold churches visited during a recent Branch ringing outing, to the new bell-ringing friends who welcome me wherever I go. Every bell tells a different story. Every bell is a different challenge – and I love it! Bats in the Belfry?? – Not me!

LEARN TO RING CHURCH BELLS – COME AND HAVE A GO! You think it’s not for you? You think you have to be very strong? You think you have to be good at maths? Not a bit of it – the adverts on the television could not be further from the real world of bellringing. Come and have a go at full-circle ringing – try it out and see what you really think! The ringers of St Margaret of Antioch in Hinton Waldrist would love to welcome you to try the bells. You don’t have to live in Hinton, or even attend church. Bell ringing is for everyone. All ages welcome. There are junior bell ringing as well as adult sessions.

Come and have a tour of the belfry and see the bells. Have a go at ringing. I will soon be arranging a bell-ringing course for beginners which will start with some individual tuition in bell handling. If you would like to learn, or even if you are not sure, please give me a ring and come for a taster session... You never know till you try! Valia Battat 01865-821671, Tower Captain, St Margaret of Antioch, Hinton Waldrist

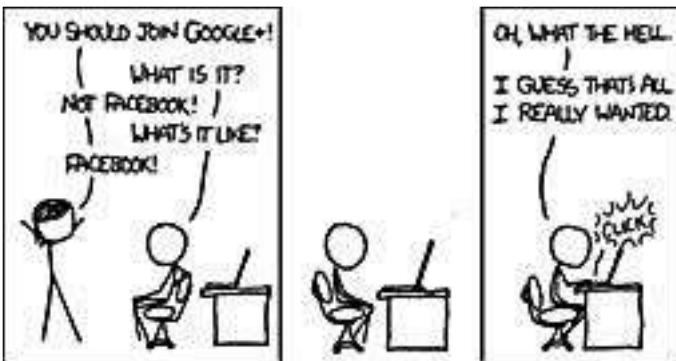
Youth Matters

Scott Thomson writes:

Despite popular belief, social media is a huge part of 'youths' lives. I know, unbelievable, right, nobody knew that. Not that I can call myself a big fan, that is. But is it more than just one big chat room? And why are teenagers nowadays obsessed with it?

I, personally, got bored with social media a long time ago. It kind of lost its magic early on. I still check my profile, just to keep people happy, but I found myself preoccupied with doing other stuff, writing this column for instance (or I'm just too much of a 'procrastinator'). But it's not hard to see where the appeal lies. It's just like meeting your friends, only you can show them videos of yourself and you don't have to travel the gruelling journey of five minutes to see them. Social media is also sort of a social requirement for many young people. For instance, if I were to post a picture on Facebook or Twitter, then my friendship group would be automatically obliged to see it, so I could talk to them about it later, while anyone who hadn't seen the photo would be automatically excluded from the circle. Sad, I know, but that's just the way modern social circles work. If I were the boy who had not seen the photo, then I would rush onto my computer as soon as I got home and check it out, but by then, the conversation would have moved on, and the picture would be 'old' and redundant. This is how Facebook worked up a complete worth of \$200 billion dollars by 2014.

However much this column makes it seem that I dislike social media, there are its pros. When I left my old school, it was nice to know I could still keep in contact with my old friends, and it is a good way of advertising a company. To be honest, my view on social media is neutral. It can be dangerous, but it can also be beneficial. But anyway, I hope this column has given you an insight into what makes it tick. Weirdly, this column has given me an urge to check my Facebook. *0 friends*. Oh well, I'll just keep on hoping....



Mark Potts' Kitchen Talk



We have an important occasion at the hotel next month: Mr Lloyd's 100th birthday. We are

doing a special menu – it got me thinking how food has changed over that time.

Auguste Escoffier ran the Savoy kitchen from 1890-1898, he introduced the brigade system and discipline in kitchens.

The first real celebrity Chef was Marco Pierre White; he earned three Michelin stars at the famous restaurant "Harvey's" at the age of 33 – the youngest ever at that time. His sous chef was Gordon Ramsey. He handed the stars back saying he had no more to achieve. His book "White heat" was recently re-published for its 25th anniversary and is a best seller again.

The late 1990's saw molecular gastronomy – Ferran Adria at "El Bulli" used crazy techniques to great affect and was voted best restaurant in the world a record number of times. At one stage he had a ratio of 3 Chefs to every 1 customer. He was Heston Blumenthal's main influence when he started the "Fat Duck" in Bray.

The top restaurants today such as Faviken, Noma and L'Enclume are all using methods and techniques from years ago such as fermenting, salt baking and preserving – so it does go full circle. We are all looking forward to trying the different dishes for the birthday on March 7th.

Mark is Head Chef at Fallowfields Hotel & Restaurant



KINGSTON BAGPUIZE DRAMA GROUP

'KBDG will be presenting our popular annual Murder Mystery Evening with food on Saturday 25th April.

Bad Fortune ... a fortune telling party leads to a gruesome end for one of the guests

Details and booking form in next month's KBS news

Sarah Curran

The Last Laugh - Church Notices



- Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM . Please use the back door.
- The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.



Kingston Bagpuize Cricket Club

We are seeking :-

1. **NEW PLAYERS** of any ability and all ages from 9 years upwards
2. **VOLUNTEERS** to assist our existing team with all aspects of running a community club, from administrative roles and fund raising to coaching, helping with the upkeep of the ground and buildings, umpiring and scoring.

Planning consent has been given for the Sports Field development and we are looking forward to having long term security of tenure which enables **your** community cricket club to plan its future and develop its facilities for the benefit of the people in the parish and surrounding areas.

We run 2 **Senior** Saturday league sides playing in the Cherwell league, a midweek 20/20 league side (blending competitive cricket with social cricket) and a Sunday team playing friendly fixtures. Lastly, the club are the reigning **Oxfordshire Indoor Champions !**

We have a thriving **Junior Section** supported by ECB qualified coaches and many of our youngsters go on to play for representative teams run by the Oxfordshire Cricket Board (Girls and Boys!).

The club is working towards the prestigious Clubmark accreditation and we offer open access to all abilities.

To find out more, please contact:-

tjscrase@hotmail.com (club Chairman)
Hannahspan76@hotmail.com (junior co-ordinator)
David.warner@cobaltlight.com (club Captain)

Or visit our website <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/kingstonbagpuizecricketclub/>

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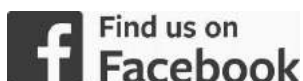
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