

Published by Garsington Parish Council

[garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

# Garsington Newsletter



April/May 2026

# Garsington Good Neighbours

Do you need a hand with changing that light bulb, checking if that wonky table leg can be fixed, fixing that squeaky gate? We are volunteers in Garsington who are willing to help with light tasks in the home or garden. We will do occasional shopping or just come and say hello.



**Telephone 07487 680507**

**Please join us for Tea in the Village Hall.**

**Everyone is welcome**

**2.30pm on the second Tuesday of the month.**

**We charge £2 for the tea and cake**

**If you would like to come and need a lift please phone us**

Other enquiries to Jane Kay 07936 873623 or email [janekey@mac.com](mailto:janekey@mac.com)  
New volunteers always welcome



## GARSINGTON VOLUNTARY DRIVERS

Do you need a little extra help to get to medical appointments? or to village events?

Do you have a temporary or permanent disability which makes using public transport difficult?

**Phone 07825 085550**

and leave a message, we will call you back.

From March 2 we will charge 50p per mile for the cost of the fuel.

For example a return trip to the John Radcliffe will cost £6.20

Local village trips will remain £1

Please give as much notice as possible for us to find a driver, at least 48 hours

*Enquiries to Fiona Rix, 01865 361266 [fionarix2@gmail.com](mailto:fionarix2@gmail.com)*

*We always welcome new drivers*

## Chairman's Remarks

You will no doubt have already heard about the co-ordinated raid on Greenwoods by the Environment Agency, Thames Valley Police, Immigration officers, DVLA ( vehicle licensing agency), DVSA (vehicle standards including MOT tests), SODC and the County Council. It has been reported in detail by the Oxford Mail/Times and at the time of writing the village is tidier and more pleasant as a consequence. The Parish Council has provided the police with a victim impact statement based upon complaints made to it dating back to 2016. I just want to thank the many people in the village who, over many years, have logged cars, photographed number plates, photographed oil slicks, researched vehicle histories and removed litter from ditches. I would like to think that it is down to all their efforts that action was eventually taken.

To complete this campaign, the County Council is promising to extend the double yellow lines in Pettwell further up the hill within the next few months.

To update you about the local nature reserve in Kiln Lane, the Green Gym volunteers have been repairing the footpath along the southern edge of the site and a contractor, paid for by a grant, has cut back some of the vegetation and raised the water levels to the benefit of the local moorhens and mallards. The restoration and safety work is going well and we look forward to a partial opening of the footpath towards the end of the year.

The Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on the 11th May 2026 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. It will be a great opportunity to ask questions of Councillors and to hear about some of the latest plans.

Chris Wright

## From the Vicar

Dear Friends,

You're likely reading this during Holy Week, the days leading up to Easter. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, when Christians remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey—an act that signals a very different kind of kingship. A ruler arriving on a donkey comes in humility and peace, not in triumph or war. In doing so, Jesus also fulfils the prophecy that the Messiah would come to his city in just this way. The crowds welcome him as a conquering king, waving palm branches and shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" Yet only days later, many of those same voices call for his crucifixion.

On the night before he died, Jesus shared a final meal with his friends. After supper, he knelt and washed their feet—one of the most moving scenes in Scripture, when our Lord takes the role of a servant. Our late Queen Elizabeth was deeply inspired by this act, as was Graham Kendrick when he wrote "The Servant King," with its reminder that Jesus came "not to be served but to serve." Jesus shows us what true leadership looks like: love expressed through service.

As I look at world events, and see how earthly leaders often misuse and abuse power, I find myself longing for more leaders who resemble Jesus—the good shepherd who feeds and tends his flock. This Lent, a small group from around the Benefice of Garsington, Cuddesdon and Horspath has been gathering for a simple lunch and to watch Bishop Steven Croft's reflections on how Jesus feeds us in Holy Communion. Sharing food and conversation has been a real joy. As we've talked about Scripture, faith, and discipleship, we've been reminded how friendships and communities grow when we sit and eat together. The Bible paints the Kingdom of Heaven as a great feast, where people come from every direction to share in God's abundance. Around a table, we catch a small glimpse of that promise.

I hope that this Easter you enjoy a good meal with family or

friends, and that as you eat and drink together, you remember the example of Jesus—the humble host who invites us to set aside our divisions and be united at his table, where even enemies can become friends.

We would be delighted to welcome you at our services this Holy Week and Easter, in St Mary's Church. On Wednesday 1st April, we have our final Lent lunch at 12 noon, followed by our Lent Course: Come & See. (I am so sorry that this clashes with the monthly lunch in the Village Hall). On Good Friday, from 2pm, we have readings, hymns, reflections and silence, as we remember Jesus' crucifixion. (This will probably begin in church at 2pm, and then move outside and gather at the foot of the cross around 2:30pm. Do feel free just to join us outside, for the final half hour). On Easter Day, at 9:30am, we have a Parish Easter Communion Service, with crème eggs for all, as we celebrate the Resurrection. All are welcome to join us.

Happy Easter, and God bless,  
The Revd Tom



1st-10th May 2026

The biennial Dorchester-on-Thames Festival is one of Oxfordshire's leading Festivals, taking place over 10 action-packed Spring days, based in and around the stunning location of Dorchester Abbey. Since 2005 the Festival has regularly attracted over 5,000 people each year, from serious followers of the arts to schools, families and children of all ages and has raised significant profile and £350,000 for Dorchester Abbey and local charities. In 2026 we are partnering with local charity Be Free Young Carers. This wonderful charity enables Oxfordshire Young Carers to achieve their full po-

tential by delivering a far-reaching developmental and emotional support network of people and resources in their daily lives, schools and communities.

Highlights in 2026 include The Kings Singers, Regents Opera, Brian Bilston, the BBC Elstree Concert Band, the now legendary abseil down the abbey's 100ft tower, cookery and art workshops, poetry, comedy, folk and jazz nights, a gift and food fair, dog show, fun run and even a duck race.

<https://dorchesterfestival.com>

Dorchester Festival was started in 2005 following restoration of Dorchester Abbey.

It was initially a way of encouraging new people into the building and showing the potential of the Abbey as a venue for booking a variety of events.

Over the years it has become a major community event, offering opportunities to members of the community to perform and create and also to experience big professional arts events that would not normally be available on their doorstep in rural South Oxfordshire

It is entirely run by volunteers who take roles organising events, taking tickets or simply pouring tea!

We raise money across the Festival as a whole, and share our profits equally between Dorchester Abbey and a different local charity every time.



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## What's On this *April/May*



Waterperry  
Gardens

**RETREAT:** 3rd - 6th April - 4-DAY SPRING CLEANSE RETREAT  
- IN THE MAIN HOUSE\*

**TRAIL:** until 19th April - BIG EASTER BUNNY HUNT - IN THE GARDENS

**FREE EVENT:** until 26th April - GREEN WORKS,  
SPRING EXHIBITION, IN THE GALLERY

**WORKSHOP:** 16th May - WILLOW GARDEN STRUCTURES\*

**EXHIBITION:** 1st-10th May - OXFORDSHIRE ART WEEKS

**EVENT:** 23rd May - SAXIFRAGA DAY

**HALF-TERM TRAIL:** until 31st May - GNOMETASTIC

**FREE EVENT:** until 28th June - MODERN MAKERS  
COLLECTIVE SHOWCASE, IN THE GALLERY

\*Please see our website for more information or to book.

**OPEN DAILY**  
10:00AM -  
5:30PM

Waterperry Gardens, Waterperry, Near Wheatley, Oxfordshire OX3 1JZ | 0184 33824 | [www.waterperrygardens.co.uk](http://www.waterperrygardens.co.uk)  

# Garsington School News



Hello! We are Elsie the Cat, Copybara Ella, Just Clara and Alien Adrian. We are very excited to tell you all about the things that we have been doing at our school.

Ms d'Archambaud, our headteacher, has asked us some questions.

## **What have you been enjoying in class?**

We have just been doing our end of term tests and have quite enjoyed doing them! They have been fun and help us to see how much we have learnt.

We have been learning about rainforests. It has been interesting to find out about where these are and the animals that live in these habitats.

We loved our visit from Korky Paul this term. Korky Paul is a famous author and illustrator who wrote Winnie the Witch. It was so relaxing learning how to draw with him.

In science week we made our own robots and programmed them to move in response to sound.

## **What events have happened in school recently?**

We loved this year's Aspirations Week. We had lots of really interesting visitors who talked about their jobs. These included being a dentist, police officer, ghost hunter, drummer and a footballer. A lot of us want to be a police officer so we can make the world a better place.

This year we had a book week rather than just a book day. We had lots of events including visiting authors, drama workshops, story

swaps, dress up day, free book gift and a big bedtime story evening with hot chocolate! Our parents also organised a Golden Ticket chocolate event.

Lots of children from year 5 and 6 went to Sportshall Athletics at Wheatley Park school. There were eight local primary schools there and we came... first! Our teachers and friends were very proud of us.

This term Year 5 organised a breakfast cafe for all our parents. We served croissants, pain au chocolat and hot drinks. We really enjoyed running the cafe and received lots of compliments and tips! We want to buy a class pet but we are not sure if our teacher will let us!

### **What are you looking forward to this term?**

This term we are looking forward to Easter as we will visit church and sing our Easter songs. We also have an Easter Egg hunt in our house teams. This is a good opportunity to be a team with children from other classes. We also have our famous Easter hat parade which can be noisy but is great fun. We love to make and decorate our Easter hats and show them off to the rest of the school. We also get to dance!

### **Why should families choose our school?**

We always try to be kind and nurture everyone to flourish. Our Red Kite values help us to do the right thing.

Teachers are nice, fun and help us to learn.

Everyone is friendly and welcoming.

We have **LEAP**. There are lots of zones of play at lunchtime including an active wall, den building, scooters, swingball and board games. Our next zone is a reading shed! We are looking forward to having a quiet place with cushions to read at lunchtimes.

Thank you for reading our report.

Written by Year 5 Red Kite Reporters

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Purely Plants Nursery, 142a Wantage Road, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 0LU**

Hi Everyone,

I know you all like going to the theatre so thought I would tell you about the next production coming your way.

What You Will Theatre are putting on a production of The Importance of Being Earnest in early April. I will be playing Miss Prism and Marcus Orram whom some of you may know, is playing Algernon.

We will be in Garsington Village Hall on Friday 10th April @ 7.30pm.

If you are unable to make that day but want to see our production we will be in Great Milton on Monday 6th April and in The Corn Exchange, Witney on Saturday 11th April. All performances begin at 7.30pm.

Tickets can be obtained by using this link:

<https://app.tickettailor.com/events/whatyouwilltheatre>

Hope to see you there.

Marie Holmes

## **Garsington Church Finance Report for 2025.**

St Mary's Garsington had a challenging year financially, with rising costs and stable regular income. The PCC made the difficult decision to reduce its Parish Share payment (to the Diocese) by approximately 50%, saving the General Fund c£13k and ended 2025 with a small surplus £315. This does mean the church is not 'paying its way' as far as the Oxford Diocese is concerned, but this is unlikely to change in 2026.

2025 was however a Village Fete year and this very successful event raised £3,785 for the church's Fabric Fund, and a donation of £1,890 to Garsington Primary School's Experience Fund (supporting participation in extracurricular activities for all pupils). Huge thanks go to Nick Green and the Fete Committee for organising such a great community event, and Susan Darby for generously lending Garsington Manor for the day! Other special church collections raised money for Christian Aid and the Children's Society. Particular thanks go this year to John Buckley for funding the Organ repairs.

The Fabric Account funded necessary repairs to the floor and essential maintenance. Replacement chairs for the pews temporarily removed to storage will be a 2026 cost. The Fabric Account balance was £9.4k, of which £5k is now earmarked for window / stonework repairs. The majority of regular donors continue to use the Parish Giving Scheme, which is very helpful for cash-flow. The Scheme can now receive one-off donations too, (e.g. for the Safari Supper) making a tax reclaim possible.

Overall the church continues to face a financial challenge despite our income from our many regular donors, with a small regular congregation. The appointment of a Benefice Administrator has been of great benefit to the 3 parishes, albeit at a cost but the fabric of the church is in increasingly urgent need of major repairs, including windows, stonework and damp issues. Given the costs and regular income, the PCC is discussing fund-raising support with the

Parish Council.

Summary figures:

In terms of the overall funds, these continue to be held as CCLA investments (£15k) and in cash at bank, (£12k). Petty cash balance was £0.5k. Of the £26.9k total net value of the funds, £9.4k is 'Restricted' (virtually all the Fabric fund) and £17.5k in the General Fund. The full accounts will be available at the Annual Public Church Meeting on 3rd May in the Church, at around 10.30, after the service, all very welcome.

<u>St Mary's Garsington Combined Income and Expenditure Summary 2025.</u>		Page 7
<b>Income</b>		
Gift-aided giving (incl. tax reclaim).		20,667
Other giving / fundraising		7,722
Fees		3,167
Legacy		0
		<hr/>
		31,556
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Parish Share		12,000
Local Clergy / Benefice / Service Costs		4,372
Church & Churchyard Running Costs		10,213
Outreach / Charitable Giving		2,609
		<hr/>
		29,196
<b>Net Loss / Gain</b>		<hr/>
		2,361
<u>St Mary's Garsington Combined Balance Sheet Summary 2024.</u>		
CCLA Funds on deposit		15,074
HSBC Bank & Cash		12,117
Creditors		(300)
Debtors		0
<b>Total Assets</b>		<hr/>
		26,891
<b>General Fund</b>		17,464
<b>Restricted Funds</b>		<hr/>
		9,428
		<hr/>
		26,891

## Lunch Club



We currently have space available and would love to hear from you, why not give it a try. You can enjoy a two-course lunch with tea or coffee to finish and meet old and new friends for a cost of £5.

The Lunch Club is held on the first Wednesday of the month except for January (No Lunch Club), this includes the 1st of the month if it falls on a Wednesday.

If you are unable to attend and you do normally, then please let us know by Monday Morning prior to Lunch Club. We appreciate that sometimes emergencies occur, but if you can give prior notice it avoids over catering.

### **Dates for Lunch Club**

Wednesday 1st April 12.30pm Village Hall

Wednesday 6th May 12:30 pm Village Hall

Contact: Eileen on 01865 361639 or Judy on 01865 343563

## Friday Cafe



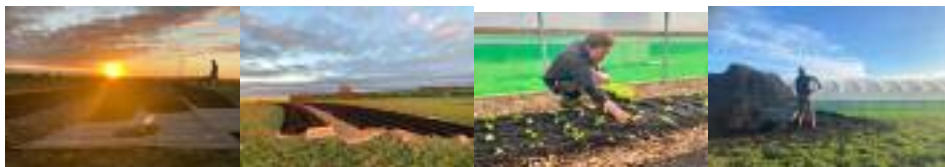
Why not come and join us at Friday Café, once a month at St Mary's church. For a nominal amount of 50p you can enjoy fresh coffee or tea and a slice of homemade cake.

**Dates - Fri 17th April and 15th May 10-12 noon**

**If you are a Mum or Dad, Carer or Grandparent looking after children, please come and join us, there is a small children's play area in the Church and everyone is most welcome.**

Eileen and all the helpers

## Bringing market gardening back to Garsington



There was a time when Garsington had many market gardens, supplying fresh vegetables for the village and to Oxford's markets. Like many rural communities, that close connection to small-scale food production has gradually been lost. Our aim is to help restore it by bringing hyper-local, regenerative growing back into the heart of the community – nurturing both social connection and healthy ecosystems. This kind of farming produces seasonal, nutrient-rich vegetables, without chemicals and with virtually zero food miles. It also offers an opportunity to connect with how your food is produced and what is in season. We invite you to join us on Friday afternoons to meet neighbours, make new friends and spend some time with your hands in the soil - or simply to collect your weekly vegetable box and enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of cake.

Volunteer afternoons will begin on Fridays after Easter. A seasonal veg box subscription, with weekly pick up from the field in Southend, will start in June. Numbers for both will be limited, please contact [hello@bailorsfield.co.uk](mailto:hello@bailorsfield.co.uk) to express interest in volunteering or to join the waiting list for a veg box subscription. You can also follow [bailors.field](https://www.instagram.com/bailors.field) on Instagram for updates from the farm. Look out for a mid-summer open day when our new garden is in full bloom. We look forward to seeing you in the field.

Gail Buswell  
bailors field  
Southend, Garsington





The View From Denton Lane

An update from Garsington Sports & Social Club

### **What's been happening?**

*On the sporting front...* Our Men's football team finished their league campaign with a 4-1 away win against Horton to guarantee a well-deserved promotion next year before the final games are played. With only cup games now remaining for us, we'll be looking to continue the momentum for another trophy, well done lads! Our cricket team are full steam ahead with the wicket and square preparations ahead of their season commencing in May. Look out for fixture updates on their Facebook & Instagram - Gaerse Dun Cricket Club.

Our Friday night Mixed Darts teams sit mid-table in the singles and Pairs leagues, but have had a successful competition run with Garsington set to have representatives on the May 22nd Finals Night (to be held at GSSC) in the 301 Double In (GSSC's Craig), Mens Singles (GSSC's Gary & Tinny - the first time we've had an all Garsy final!), Ladies Singles (GSSC's Laura), Mixed Triples (GSSC's Gary & Abi plus friend Steve) and Mixed Fours (GSSC's Gary, Abi & Vicky plus Steve) competitions. Similarly, our Wednesday night Ladies Darts team sits mid-table and too have had a brilliant competition run with finalists in the Singles (GSSC's Ros), Pairs (GSSC's Ros & Laura) and Triples (GSSC's Ros, Laura & Vicky) with all finals to be played on Fri 5th June. We're also through into the 2nd round of the 7-a-side knockout cup after a 4-0 win over Black Bull Kidlington in the first round, so fingers crossed for some darting silverware! Our Pool team sits mid-table and continue to be great supporters of the bar.

Thanks go to our Parish Council and the many villagers who signed the recent petition to install nets on the goals near the top of the field by

the play area. We're really pleased to say these have now been installed, and we hope they get lots of use over the summer months!  
*On the social side...* our local Senior Citizens continue to meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month between 2-4pm, do get in touch if you'd like more information on how to get involved. In March, we hosted our monthly Quiz night, along with a well-supported Bingo night seamlessly organised by Sharon & Ian Breakspear with over £1,000 given out in prize money along with a bumper raffle! The monies raised will help to support the rising overhead costs we face to continue offering facilities for the community. We've continued to host more private parties & funeral wakes - a reminder that the hall is available to hire at very reasonable rates (discounted for Club members), with the bar and small kitchen facilities available to use, and clubhouse looking out over the fantastic countryside views.

### **What's coming up?**

Every Wednesday 2-4pm – Table Tennis

Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday 2-4pm – Senior Citizens

Sun 12th April - Quiz night (6pm doors for a 6:30pm start)

Sat 25th April - Race night (7:30pm doors, 8pm start), horses available to buy in advance for £5 for a £30 win return, races available to sponsor for £20, and betting available from the tote on the night

Keep an eye on our social media for further events and social evenings

### **Contact details**

Email: [garsingtonssc@gmail.com](mailto:garsingtonssc@gmail.com)

Facebook/Instagram: Garsington Sports & Social Club

### **Did You Know?**

A little piece of the Club's history...

...continued from Feb/Mar edition...

The President's select team of the 1964 contest against the Club cricket team consisted of several Lords (including Nat Fiennes, Lord Saye and Sele), Deans ( Oliver Fiennes, Dean of Lincoln) and the future Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie! Perhaps some of the lesser known public figures have connections to Garsington, but more on some of our famous visitors next time...

**To be continued...**

## **Garsington Village Litter Pick, 22nd March 2026**

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for the village litter pick on Sunday March 22nd!

Your time and effort have made such a positive difference, and the village is looking fantastic thanks to your hard work. With around 35 volunteers rallying together, an impressive number of bags and fly-tipped waste were collected from our roadsides, paths, verges, and ditches — truly a community effort to be proud of!

A special thank you to Alan Bower for picking up the bags from around the village and taking them to The Green.

We would also like to express our appreciation to villagers, young and old, who contribute to keeping Garsington looking its best. Whether it is tidying the areas directly in front of your homes or picking up litter while out and about, sharing the task enhances community spirit and our pride in our village.

Unfortunately, we are sometimes too late to post a litter picking date in the Newsletter. When this happens, we use Garsington Greatness on Facebook and communication through the Garsington Society.

Thank you again for your amazing support!

Christa & Jeanie 07811 850325

## **Wheatley Windmill 2026 opening Times**

Wheatley windmill will be open again this year from May. The opening times are below.

Sunday 10th May from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m..

Sundays June 14th, July 12th, August 9th and September 13th from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m..

Sunday 11th October from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m..

As well as touring the mill, visitors can enjoy tea at open air tables, visit the mobile mill in the barn, take home some freshly ground wholemeal flour and browse the stalls for souvenirs, plants or books and jigsaws. There is no charge to park or enter the site, although donations are welcome. Lastly, we have a portaloos.

Best wishes and thanks, Caroline Dalton, secretary, Wheatley Windmill Preservation Society.



## Mondays to Fridays

0600	0700	0820	0930	1050	1150	1415	1525	1710	1830	
0611	0711	0831	0941	1101	1201	1301	1426	1536	1722	1841
0613	0714	0833	0943	1103	1203	1303	1428	1538	1724	1843
0622	0724	0841	0951	1111	1211	1311	1436	1546	1732	1851
0624	0726	0843	0953	1113	1213	1313	1438	1548	1734	1853
0631	0734	0850	1000	1120	1220	1320	1445	1555	1741	1900
0638	0742	0857	1007	1127	1227	1327	1452	1602	1748	1906
0644	0749	0905	1015	1135	1235	1335	1500	1614	1800	1913
0649	0756	0910	1020	1140	1240	1340	1506	1620	1805	
0656	0806	0919	1029	1149	1249	1349	1518	1636	1816	
0659	0810	0923	1033	1153	1253	1353	1522	1640	1820	

1520 ←

school days only

## school days

5 January - 13 February  
23 February - 27 March  
1 April - 2 July  
1 June - 22 July

## Saturdays

0800	0925	1045	1145	1305	1410	1525	1710	1820	1930
0811	0936	1056	1156	1316	1421	1536	1722	1832	1939
0813	0938	1058	1158	1318	1423	1538	1724	1834	1941
0822	0947	1107	1207	1327	1432	1547	1732	1842	1948
0824	0949	1109	1209	1329	1434	1549	1734	1844	1950
0831	0956	1116	1216	1336	1441	1556	1741	1851	1956
0838	1003	1123	1223	1343	1448	1603	1747	1857	2001
0845	1013	1133	1233	1353	1458	1613	1754	1904	
0852	1019	1139	1239	1359	1504	1619	1759	1908	
0859	1029	1149	1249	1409	1514	1629	1808	1917	
0902	1034	1154	1254	1414	1519	1634	1813	1921	

## Sundays and public holidays

0825	1025	1250	1555	1805
0837	1036	1301	1605	1815
0839	1039	1303	1607	1816
0846	1048	1310	1615	1823
0848	1050	1312	1617	1825
0855	1058	1318	1624	1831
0900	1104	1324	1630	1837
0906	1112	1333	1637	1843
0911	1117		1643	
0919	1125		1653	
0922	1129		1657	

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Oxford Shelley Road

Oxford City Centre Queens Lane

Oxford City Centre Speedwell Street

Watlington Library

Chalgrove Fairfax Road

Chalgrove The Red Lion

Stadhampton School Lane

Chiselhampton The Coach &amp; Horses

Garsington Village Hall

Cowley Lidl

Cowley Templars Square stop A

Oxford Shelley Road

Oxford City Centre Queens Lane

Oxford City Centre Speedwell Street

Watlington Library

Chalgrove Fairfax Road

Chalgrove The Red Lion

Stadhampton School Lane

Chiselhampton The Coach &amp; Horses

Garsington Village Hall

Cowley Lidl

Cowley Templars Square stop A

Oxford Shelley Road

Oxford City Centre Queens Lane

Oxford City Centre Speedwell Street

## Wheatley Library

Joining and using the library is free. We hope to see you soon! For news and event updates, follow the 'Friends of Wheatley Library' Facebook page.



### Special Events

- **Easter Trail- Hop on over to Wheatley Library for our free Easter Egg Hunt! Kids of all ages welcome. Find the eggs and claim your treat!**
  - o Saturday 28th March to Saturday 4th April

- **Easter Storytime and Craft – Listen to Easter stories and create a crackling good craft with a chick popping out.**

- o Saturday 4th April 10am

### Regular Library Events:

- **Rhymetime**

- o Every Friday 10.30am to 11am
- o Recommended for children aged 5 and under

- **Storytime**

- o Every Saturday 10am to 10.30am
- o Recommended for children aged 3 to 7

- **Digital Helper Sessions (one-to-one support with technology e.g. smart phones, emails, WhatsApp)**

- o Every Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm
- o Email the library [wheatley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:wheatley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk) to book a

slot.

- **Jigsaw Swap**

- o 1st Saturday of the Month 9.30am to 12noon

If you are new to the village, the library is located on the upper floors of the Merry Bells. Entrance is from the carpark off Church Road or up the steps from the High Street.

Opening Hours:

Monday Closed

Tuesday 2 to 7pm

Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2 to 5pm

Thursday 2 to 5pm

Friday 9.30am to 1pm & 2 to 6pm

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## EARLY SUMMER

The soft mist gathers over the wooded plain,  
the fern frond, tender green, unfolds gently  
its fingers to greet the noon.

The clear voice of the cuckoo, singing in jubilation,  
the chiffchaff in the beech tree, uncertain yet to herald May .

The scented pine, tall and dark, superior; hesitant the  
oak, stretches pale branches, leaves small and waiting .

The gorse, prickly, golden, thrusting upwards  
to make room for the nest, softly lined with down,  
the goldfinch, busy there, small, in the vast  
stillness of woods awakening.

The sparse soil, silvery light, sandy on the rise  
of undulating land, the blaze of colour,  
as the shift of sunlight shyly peers through,  
penetrating and bursting forth,  
in jubilation to Summer.

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## LOCAL INFORMATION

### PARISH COUNCIL

**Chairman:** Cllr Chris Wright Tel: 01865 361206  
[chris.wright@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:chris.wright@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
**Vice Chairman:** Cllr Matthew Dovey Tel: 01865 601279  
[matthew.dovey@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.dovey@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### Members:

Cllr Richard Betteridge Tel: 01865 361208  
[richard.betteridge@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:richard.betteridge@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Cllr Paul Bolam Tel: 01865 361349  
[paul.bolam@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:paul.bolam@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Cllr Anne Eastwood Tel: 01865 361205  
[anne.eastwood@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:anne.eastwood@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Cllr Louise Bower  
[louise.bower@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:louise.bower@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Cllr Annalisa Miller  
[annalisa.miller@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:annalisa.miller@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Cllr Judith Westgate Tel: 07812813129  
[judith.westgate@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:judith.westgate@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Cllr Ian Ashley Tel: 01865 361154  
[ian.ashley@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:ian.ashley@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Parish Clerk:** Elaine Small 151 Normandy Cres OX4 2TN  
[clerk@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Tel: 07907 199171

**Newsletter Editor:** Judy Westgate 71 Wheatley Road Garsington OX44 9ER  
[judithwestgate7144@gmail.com](mailto:judithwestgate7144@gmail.com)

Tel: 07812813129

**County Cllr:** Cllr Robin David Jones [robin.jones@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:robin.jones@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

**District Cllr:** Cllr Sam James-Lawrie [sam.james-lawrie@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:sam.james-lawrie@southoxon.gov.uk)

**Garsington C.E. Primary School**

Tel: 01865 361263

[Office@garsingtonprimary.org](mailto:Office@garsingtonprimary.org)

**St Mary's Church**

**Rector** Tom Wallis [therevdtomwallis@gmail.com](mailto:therevdtomwallis@gmail.com)

Tel: 01865 361146

**Village Hall** Marie Holmes Tel: 01865 361200

**Sports and Social Club** Rob Jeffery Tel: 01865 368022

**Missing bin collection** Tel: 03000 610610

**Burial Ground Manager** Sonia Hill [s.hill15@btinternet.com](mailto:s.hill15@btinternet.com)

**Garsington Society** Stefania Cavaliere [stefania\\_cav@yahoo.it](mailto:stefania_cav@yahoo.it)

**Senior Citizens** Gerald Styles [geraldstyles51@btinternet.com](mailto:geraldstyles51@btinternet.com)

**Women's Institute** Martha Griffiths President Tel: 01865361730

[msjgriffiths@btinternet.com](mailto:msjgriffiths@btinternet.com)

## EVENTS DIARY April/May

### April

- Wed 1st Lunch Club Village Hall 12:30
- Sun 5th Easter Sunday Parish Communion St Mary's 09:30
- Tues 7th Senior Citizens S&SC 2:00 pm
- Wed 8th WI Village Hall 7:30pm
- Sun 12th Parish Communion St Mary's 9:30am
- Mon 13th Parish council meeting Village Hall 7:30pm
- Tues 14th Good Neighbours Tea and Cakes 2:30 pm
- Fri 17th Friday Cafe St Mary's 10:00-12:00 noon
- Sun 19th Parish Communion St Mary's 09:30am
- Tues 21st Senior Citizens S&SC 2:00p
- Sun 26th Breakfast Communion St Mary's 09:30am

### May

- Sun 3rd Parish Communion St Mary's 09:30am
- Tues 5th Senior Citizens S&SC 2:00pm
- Wed 6th Lunch Club Village Hall 12:30
- Sun 10th Parish Communion St Mary's 09:30am
- Sun 10th Story time Church 3pm Ripon College Cuddesdon
- Mon 11th Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7:30pm
- Tues 12th Good Neighbours Tea and Cakes 2:30pm
- Wed 13th WI Village Hall 7:30pm
- Fri 15th Friday Cafe St Mary's 10:00-12:00
- Sun 17th Parish Communion St Mary's 09:30am
- Tues 19th Senior Citizens S&SC 2:00pm
- Fri 22nd Last Date for contributions to newsletter June/July**
- Sun 24th Breakfast Communion 09:30am

### Front Cover - Spring flowers - Barbara Engstrom

Please send me any photos you think would be suitable for the front cover - [judithwestgate7144@gmail.com](mailto:judithwestgate7144@gmail.com)



## **GARSINGTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

In March, we held our Annual Meeting and elections of our committee members and officers. Our committee was re-elected: President – Martha Skevos-Jones Griffiths, Vice President – Elizabeth Bowler, Treasurer – Jen Alsop, Secretary – Angela Marriott, Members – Ginny Baker, Judy Eden, and Marion Read. It was an opportunity for us to look back on the previous year's accomplishments and discuss the challenges we have going forward, resulting from the change in membership requirements due to the recent Supreme Court rulings. We are going to continue for another year, while seeking action and clarification from the government.

The National Federation of Women's Institutes considers transwomen as women, and NFWI is working on an interim solution to remain trans-inclusive pending further government guidance. In the meantime, transwomen are still more than welcome to attend our meetings, including our subgroups, as guests. All ladies are welcome to give

us a try as guests. Guests pay £5 at the door and that includes refreshments.

Our next regular meeting will be **Wednesday, 8th April at 7:30pm** in the Village Hall. It will be a relaxed *Quiz Night*.

**In May, we meet on Wednesday, 13th May** at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. We will be welcoming local music historian Nick Gill for an evening of “*The Life and Music of Irving Berlin*.”

Our Book Group meetings will be **Tuesday, 21st April and Tuesday, 19th May at 10:30am** at the Mill View Nursery café in Wheatley. Our books are sourced for free from the public library’s reading group service.

Ripping Yarns, our craft and chat group, meets **Wednesday, 22nd April and Wednesday, 27th May at 10:00 am** at the Bowler residence on Elm Drive. Ladies are welcome to come along to craft or just to chat. Contact Elizabeth at 01865 361766 for location details.

For more information about our WI, please contact Martha at 01865 361730 or [msjgriffiths@btinternet.com](mailto:msjgriffiths@btinternet.com), or our Secretary, Angela, at 01865 361530 or [amgars@gmail.com](mailto:amgars@gmail.com) or simply come by.

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Direction of stops: where shown (eg: W-bound) this is the compass direction towards which the bus is pointing when it stops

**Mondays to Fridays**

Service Restrictions	Th	Tu
Holton, Bus Shelter (o/s)	0955	0955
Cuddesdon, The Green (SW-bound)	1005	1005
Denton, Castle Farm (o/s)	1010	1010
Garsington, North Manor (W-bound)	1015	1015
Toot Baldon, The Mole Inn (o/s)		1022
Marsh Baldon, Seven Stars (o/s)		1025
Southend, Kings Copse Caravan Park (opp)	1020	
Cowley, Tesco Store (inside)	1025	
Cowley, Templars Square (Stop A)	1030	1040
Oxford City Centre, High Street (Stop L3)	1045	1055

**Saturdays**

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**Sundays**

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**Bank Holidays**

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Service Restrictions: Th - Thursdays  
Tu - Tuesdays**49****Oxford - Cowley - The Baldons / Kings Copse - Cuddesdon - Holton**

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**Mondays to Fridays**

Service Restrictions	Th	Tu
Notes	Req	Req
Oxford City Centre, High Street (Stop T2)	1300	1300
Cowley, Templars Square (Stop C)	1315	1315
Marsh Baldon, Seven Stars (opp)		1330
Toot Baldon, The Mole Inn (opp)		1333
Cowley, Tesco Store (inside)	1320	
Southend, Kings Copse Caravan Park (o/s)	1325	
Garsington, North Manor (E-bound)	1330	1340
Denton, Castle Farm (opp)	1335	1345
Cuddesdon, The Green (opp)	1339	1349
Holton, Bus Shelter (opp)	1349rs	1359rs

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Teas and cakes, as well as our own honey and preserves will be on sale in aid of NGS health related charities (including Macmillan, Hospice UK, Parkinson's UK). Claire and Dave Parker, Tythe Barn, Guydens Hamlet, Oxford Rd, Garsington, OX44 9AZ. (Just before BuildBase)

<https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/45416/tythe-barn>

There are hundreds of gardens open for NGS across Oxfordshire throughout the year, with many open by arrangement. If you would like to receive an email about gardens opening, please use the following link. Or QR code.

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1/2 page 90mm x 124.5mm	£24	£130
full page 186mm x 124.5mm	£48	£260

### Useful internet information

Parish Website [www.garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Police PCSO 101 for non-urgent queries, otherwise 999.  
Finding a library <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/find-library>  
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Illegally parked vehicles <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/illegal-parking>

### Important Telephone Numbers

To share information with the Police but remain anonymous call Crimestoppers, 0800 555111.

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