

Published by Garsington Parish Council

garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Garsington Newsletter



June/July 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 also collect prescriptions, 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

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

Leave a message, and we will call you back.

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 are £1

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

We always welcome new drivers

Enquiries to Fiona Rix, 01865 361266 fionarix2@gmail.com

Chairman's Remarks

Earlier this week we had our Annual Parish Meeting. This is a meeting for all electors in the parish which originated in the days of the mediaeval manor courts. When parish councils were established in 1894 these meetings lost their powers, but they are still required to be held each year and they provide an opportunity for the parish council to report on its activities. I'll try to give a flavour of some the key discussion points in what follows.

The average age of your parish councillors has reduced with the appointment of two new members of the council, Louise Bower and Annalisa Miller who have already made valuable contributions to our work.

Northfields is still where it has been for some time. The developers are very close to submitting proposals for the site master plan, but even when that has happened, the securing of planning permission may take a year to eighteen months and then there will be a further six months of negotiation, about the size of the developer's contribution to the local communities, before any activity on site will happen. What is now clear is that the site will be built out in different tranches by different developers and that the earlier draft plan for a community hub on the site, the subject of much consultation with villagers, is now undergoing a drastic cost reduction exercise. We await to see the outcome of this.

On Greenwoods, as you are probably aware there was a raid by seven distinct agencies early in February. According to Thames Valley Police "the MOT station now appears to be fully compliant. The Closure Order on Beto's Garage has been lifted but strict conditions remain in place regarding parking

and also who they employ. The Modern Day Slavery investigation is still ongoing and is being managed by TV CID. All of the businesses have had strict messaging regarding not letting the parking slip back to how it was". The blight at the bottom of Pettowell does seem to have been dramatically reduced.

On the memorial field we have plans for a significant increase in facilities for which we have made a number of grant applications. One, asking for £100K from SODC, is for a substantial upgrade to the playground equipment comprising an exciting new piece of equipment and the overhaul of others which are beginning to show their age. We should have feedback on this application by mid-July and many thanks to the Garsington Playground Group for pushing this forward. Also on the memorial field, but just outside the playground, an application has been made to Sports England for a grant to fund the construction of a boules pitch.

A Youth Council is a special project of Cllr Miller. In this week's Kings` Speech it was confirmed that the government intends to lower the voting age to 16 and the Parish Council felt that it had a responsibility to ensure that all young people understood how our democracy works, and how they can get involved and influence it. In conjunction with the local schools, we will be organizing three meetings a year and asking younger people in the village to share their ideas and ambitions for Garsington with the Parish Council. Further details will emerge closer to the launch later in the year.

Chris Wright

Garsington School News



Let us start this article by telling you our names. We are Lovely Linda, Excellent Evie, Marvellous Macey, Crazy Connie. We would like to tell you about what has been happening at Garsington primary school.

So, what have we been up to at school since our last report in March?

Easter at school and at St Mary's Church

Every Easter we have a parade. Every child designs and makes their own Easter themed hat. We then in classes, parade around in front of all the other children and staff. We have great music and get to show our best dance moves (year 5 are the best dancers). Our teachers choose the best hat designs and we win an Easter egg as a prize. We also do an Easter egg hunt in our houses so we get to find things with children from all the other classes. The Easter bunny also comes to visit and gives us all a little Easter egg each. Every Easter we walk down to the church and have our Easter service. We like singing Easter songs.

Swimming

This term we have been having swimming lessons every Thursday. Swimming is fun and each week we learn new skills. The swimming teachers mix it up so each lesson is different. We go to Blackbird Leys swimming pool.

Afternoon Tea run by Year 5

This term Year 5 children and parents organised an afternoon tea for our school community. We made fresh handmade lemonade and delicious cakes. We raised £370. We really want to spend the

money on a class fish. I think we have convinced our teacher, Mr Cullen!

LEAP (learning, enjoying active play)

Every month Ms d'Archambaud and Mrs Baillie organise a new LEAP zone for the playground. Connie loves the tyres, Evie's favourite is the scooter track, Linda likes to be in the reading shed and Macey enjoys the swingball. Next month we will be having pickleball and badminton. We would also love a rope swing and monkey bars.

May Day

May Day is a tradition at our school. We dress up in Victorian clothes and learn about the history of our school and what the original Garsington school looked like. We learn dances and the year 6 children dance using the May pole. All our families come and watch us. It is normally very hot!

Coming up...

We have lots of exciting events coming up this term including our school fete. This is on Saturday 11th July from 12.00-3.00. Save the date!

Thank you for reading our report. If you are looking for a school place, we sometimes have spaces so do get in contact for a tour of the school. You can get in touch with our headteacher by emailing her at zdarchmbaud@garsingtonprimary.org or phoning 01865 361263

Written by

Year 5 pupils

Red Kite Reporter



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Based in Wheatley, Oxford



What's On this

June / July
June / July



Waterperry
Gardens

CONCERT: 6th June JUBILEE BRASS BAND (AMPHITHEATRE)

EVENT: 7th June RARE PLANTFAIR

FREE EXHIBITION: (until 28th June) MODERN MAKERS, GALLERY

EVENT: 12th-14th June HANDMADE OXFORD

COURSE: 19th June HERBACEOUS BORDERS (OLD & NEW)

THEATRE: 28th June OTHELLO, ON THE AWN

CONCERT: 4th July DUO DESTINO (AMPHITHEATRE)

EVENT: 10th-12th July CELEBRATING CERAMICS

SUMMER HOLIDAYS ORIENTEERING TRAIL:
(11th July until 5th Sept)

FREE EXHIBITION: (11th July-6th Sept) A BRIGHTER VIEW GALLERY

CONCERT: 26th July MOONRAKERS (AMPHITHEATRE)

OPEN DAILY 10:00AM - 5:30PM



GARSINGTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our June meeting will be a **Summer Social**. As this will be a less formal evening, it will be a good opportunity for non-members to come by and meet your local WI members and see if WI might be right for you. Why not come by on **Wednesday, 10th June at 7:30pm** to say hello. Admission for visitors will be free on the night (normally £5). We love to make new friends!

On **Wednesday, June 17th**, we will be traveling to Friars Court in Clanfield, to tour the gardens and enjoy a cream tea.

For our July meeting, we are welcoming back local author Peter Tickler for **"Confessions of a Crime Writer"** as well as a murder mystery quiz on **Wednesday, 17th July at 7:30pm**. Peter's latest novel is "Death in a Sea Pool," and will be available for purchase on the night.

Our next two WI Book Group meetings will be **Tuesday, 16th June and Tuesday, 21st July at 10:30 am**. The Book Group meets at the Mill View Nursery café in Wheatley. Our books are sourced for free via the public library's service.

Our craft-and-chat group, "Ripping Yarns," will meet on **Wednesday, 24th June and Wednesday 22nd July at 10:00 am** at the Bowler residence, Hillside on Elm Drive. Call or email for directions. You don't need to be a crafter to come by and join us for a cuppa.

WHY NOT TRY THE WI? We have room for new members. Our regular meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall. Visitors are charged £5 for admission, which includes refreshments, so you can "try before you buy," and we allow 3 visits before we ask you to formally join. Membership includes access to our regular and subgroup meetings with refreshments included. Through our National Federation, it also entitles you to discounts on a variety of goods and services, including travel insurance, plus free access to VIA, the online WI Learning Hub. Our county Federation, Oxfordshire, also organises a variety

of trips and special events for members.

We can usually help with transportation to meetings, if needed.

For more information about the Garsington WI, please contact Martha at 01865 361730 or msjgriffiths@btinternet.com, or our Secretary, Angela, at 01865 361530 or amgars@gmail.com.

Martha S.J. Griffiths, President

From the Registers at St Mary's Garsington

Funerals

Tuesday 7th April

Pippa Leavey

Friday 1st May

David Ruffels

'May they Rest in Peace'

Baptism

Sunday 19th April

Luca James Lynn

'Welcome to the Lord's Family'

Thanks

I would like to thank everyone who gave donations for tomato plants and strawberry plants etc from Southend recently.

Together we have raised £140.00 in a very short time and I have sent a cheque for this amount to Cancer Research UK, this year towards bowel cancer research.

Thank you again for your generosity,

Paul Stevenson

An Update from Bailors field



A lot has been happening in bailors field over the last couple of months. We have welcomed some fantastic volunteers from the village to help us plant up the outdoor beds. We have fennel, onions, chard, kale, kohlrabi, artichoke, celeriac and dwarf beans in the beds outside and lots of tomatoes and salad leaves inside the polytunnel as well as radish and my new favourite agretti (a salty spring green). We had our first harvest from the polytunnel last week - salad and radish which went to local grocery shops. Outside the conditions have been more testing, with too little rain, too much wind and a couple of hard frosts making it difficult for the plants to establish in the new beds. The garden is designed to rise to these challenges with diverse planting providing resilience and on contour curved beds to assist with water retention. We will be working on a system of ponds and rainwater capture to optimise water usage on the site in the coming months.

Following our Friday volunteer 'taster' sessions, we have now changed volunteer days to Tuesdays and will offer an 'open field' afternoon. This means anyone from the village can come along between 2-4pm on a Tuesday and join in with the work at the market garden, or go for a walk around the field, sit and read a book in the sunshine or help serve the tea and cake. It is a chance to join in, get some fresh air, relax in nature or chat to your neighbours.

We remain on track for a June veg share offering for bailors field members. To register your interest please contact hello@bailors-field.co.uk. Boxes for June will include mixed salad, radishes, chard, heritage beetroot, spring onions, fennel and herbs. By July we hope to be adding tomatoes and courgette too. For those already on the waiting list you will receive more membership details and a sign up email later this month.

We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you in the field.

Gail Buswell

bailors field

Southend, Garsington



GARSINGTON SENIOR CITIZENS MATTERS

We are always looking to recruit New Members to our Senior Citizens Club social meetings on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 2.00 p.m. in the Sports and Social Club, Garsington for tea/coffee & biscuits, with Bingo, Raffle and a Bring and Buy sale for your enjoyment. Once a month during the summer and autumn we run coach trips to various, mainly seaside, towns to which non-members are more than welcome for a subsidised price of £25 per person. [Please bring small, wrapped gift for the coach draw.]

Destinations for our seasonal trips for 2026 have been agreed and bookings confirmed for last Wednesday of May to September and Late November 2026. Please be advised that we are using smaller coaches, so book your seats early with Barbara to avoid disappointment. Destination for May is Bognor and June we head to Poole and the red squirrels on Brownsea Is-

land. July will be Portsmouth and Southsea with two drop off points.

We welcome members from Garsington and surrounding villages to our bimonthly meetings which are held at Garsington Sports and Social club with ample free parking available so do please tell your friends.

You are cordially invited to come along with your friends for a free introductory meeting where you can join in the fun and find out more details.

Geraldstyles51@btinternet.com

Kiln Lane Ponds.



‘Development of Kiln Lane Nature Reserve’

Following the receipt of a grant from the Trust for the Oxfordshire Environment (TOE), work on the Kiln Lane site began in earnest in November last year. Most of the work is being carried out by the volunteer group, Garsington Green Gym, members of the Parish Council, tree adopters and other member of the public.

The volunteer groups work for about 2 hours each Friday morning and consists of 8 to 15 people at any one time. Hydrology and selective clearance of trees and scrub is being carried out by ecologist Rod d’Ayala and his team.

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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 3rd June 12.30pm Village Hall

Wednesday 1st July 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 19th June and 17th July 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

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Progress to date.

The first phase was the collection of large amounts of rubbish that was taken away by Grundons. As the work on the site progresses, more rubbish is being piled up for collection. The entrance to the site has been cleared, a hardcore standing established and a new gate has been fitted, although the entrance for pedestrians still needs to be built.

The first part of a pathway has been built together with a small bridge mostly using repurposed materials. Work is in progress on the path next to Kiln Farm and subsequent phases will be to establish permissive paths through the privately owned land.

The ecologists began work by selective clearing of brush, trees and brambles. They have raised the water level with a small dam in the stream. Much of the cut-back material was used to construct berms which divide the wet area and hold-back and purify the water. They have also constructed a willow fence at a point where the path comes very close to the fen. Water quality is being monitored. A number of bird boxes have been distributed across the site.

The site is developing into an amazing wetland in which we have created a wide area where land and water meet. This will become an ecological hotspot with high biodiversity, providing vital habitats and food sources. The plan at the moment is to open the

nature reserve to the public in the autumn when the path is completed and safety issues are in place.

If you have time on Friday mornings, come along and help.

Garsington Sports and Social Club



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 completed the league/cup double winning the Oxfordshire FA Senior League Division 2 and Supplementary Cup in style. Massive congratulations to the players, managers, coaches and supporters - what a debut season! The team will be celebrating together on Sat 6th June with an end of season presentation evening & race night, before the work begins to get ready for next season in Division 1. Our Cricket team also kicked off their 2026 league campaign in a higher division in early May, already producing some dominant displays.

Our Ladies Darts team finished the Winter 2025/26 season third in Section 1, with finals night for the competitions to be played early June. Our Friday night Mixed Darts team had a mixed season, with representatives in all of the competition finals to be held on 22nd May (just before this article goes to print) including the team 7-a-side knockout cup, yet finishing

bottom of a very tight Premier division table by only 2 points. We will be proud hosts of the Friday night finals night on 22nd May, with the return of the popular Spud Bud van! Our pool team finished the Winter with a solid 4th in the league, winning 8 of their 16 games, losing some by only very fine margins. They'll break for the Summer now before returning for the Winter league again in October/November. Meanwhile, the Aunt Sally Summer season has just kicked off - it's great to see some new faces joining the team for a good social night out.

On the social side... In April, we hosted a race night brilliantly organised by Sharon & Ian Breakspear, and despite a disappointing turnout we still managed to raise over £500 to support our football teams with their running costs. Those that attended had a great night, placing £1 bets via the tote or purchasing horses for £5, with plenty of prize money dished out in return! May saw another Quiz night, featuring rounds on General Knowledge, Words, Music, Entertainment, Pictures and the jackpot question! The jackpot rolled over meaning June's quiz will see over £50 up for grabs - not a bad return from £2 entry! We hosted a wedding reception mid-May, where the family did a great job decorating the hall, which alongside the fantastic countryside views made it all the more special! The hall is available to hire at very reasonable rates (discounted for Club members), with the bar and small kitchen facilities available to use too.

What's coming up?

Every Wednesday 2-4pm – Table Tennis

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

Sat 6th June - Men's Football Presentation Evening & Race Night (all welcome), 7pm onwards

Sun 14th June - Quiz night, doors 6pm for a 6:30pm start, £2 per adult player

Weds 17th June - England vs Croatia World Cup on the big screen, 9pm KO - look out for more info on social media on

opening times

Tues 23rd June - England vs Ghana World Cup on the big screen, 9pm KO

Sat 27th June - England vs Panama World Cup on the big screen, 10pm KO

Sun 12th July TBC - Memorial Cricket Day

Sun 9th August - Pub Olympics, 12-7pm - a fundraiser organised by the Cricket team, you can enter a team of 4 people to compete in darts, pool, aunt sally, beer pong, stump strike, drink relay challenge. Get in touch if you'd like to take part! Keep an eye on our social media for further events and social evenings

Ways you can support

We're now into a new membership year running 1st May 2026-30th April 2027 - become a member or renew yours by collecting a form from the Club or requesting a copy via email.

We're also setup on EasyFundraising, meaning you can register with your email address and everytime you shop online, the retailer will make a donation to our page at no extra cost to you! It'll take you two minutes to register to support us - every little helps with the rising costs of keeping the Club running!: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/garsington-sportssocialclub/>

Contact details

Email: garsingtonssc@gmail.com

Facebook/Instagram: Garsington Sports & Social Club

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buses between

Watlington Icknield Community College**Watlington** Library**Chalgrove** Fairfax Road**Chalgrove** The Red Lion**Stadhampton** School Lane**Chiselhampton** The Coach & 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 & 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 & Horses**Garsington** Village Hall**Cowley** Lidl**Cowley** Templars Square stop A**Oxford** Shelley Road**Oxford City Centre** Queens Lane**Oxford City Centre** Speedwell Street**Mondays to Fridays**

0600	0700	0820	0930	1050	1150	1415	1525	1710	1830
0611	0711	0831	0941	1101	1201	1301	1426	1536	1722
0613	0714	0833	0943	1103	1203	1303	1428	1538	1724
0622	0724	0841	0951	1111	1211	1311	1436	1546	1732
0624	0726	0843	0953	1113	1213	1313	1438	1548	1734
0631	0734	0850	1000	1120	1220	1320	1445	1555	1741
0638	0742	0857	1007	1127	1227	1327	1452	1602	1748
0644	0749	0905	1015	1135	1235	1335	1500	1614	1800
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	

Did You Know? A little piece of the Club's history...

...continued from Apr/May edition...

Continuing the theme of famous visitors, 1972 saw the Red Devils of Manchester United use the Club grounds and facilities for training whilst in the area ahead of an important fixture. The image included is of a letter of thanks received from the then manager Frank O'Farrell, featuring a photo of John & George Best taken outside the clubhouse. The Reds finished the 1971/72 season in 8th, but had started the 1972/73 season poorly, with O'Farrell eventually being dismissed and George Best leaving the team (albeit temporarily) just before Christmas! The squad featured iconic legends like George Best, Denis Law and Sir Bobby Charlton in his final season as a player before retiring, to name a few!

To be continued...





GROWN IN GARSINGTON

What we offer our **veg share** members:

- A weekly produce share of our nutritious **seasonal vegetables**, berries and herbs, grown in a nature and human friendly way and harvested on the day
- An opportunity to visit the field where your produce is grown, talk to the growers and **get involved**

Collection from farm gate in Garsington. To find out more or to be added to the membership waiting list email hello@bailorsfield.co.uk

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**YOGA CLASSES
IN GARSINGTON**



Every Tuesday

6.30pm – 7.30pm

Times may vary, check schedule.



Yoga Confetti

yogaconfetti@gmail.com

www.yogaconfetti.com

LOCAL INFORMATION

PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Chris Wright Tel: 01865 361206
chris.wright@garsingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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St Mary's Church

Rector Tom Wallis 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

Garsington Society Stefania Cavaliere stefania_cav@yahoo.it

Senior Citizens Gerald Styles geraldstyles51@btinternet.com

Women's Institute Martha Griffiths President Tel: 01865361730

msjgriffiths@btinternet.com

EVENTS DIARY June/July

June

- Mon 1st Parish council meeting 7:30 pm Village Hall
- Tues 2nd Senior Citizens S&SC 2:00 pm
- Wed 3rd Lunch Club Village Hall 12:30
- Sun 7th Parish Communion St Mary's 09:30
- Tues 9th Good Neighbours Tea and Cakes 2:30 pm
- Wed 10th WI Village Hall 7:30pm
- Sun 14th Parish Communion St Mary's 9:30am
- Sun 14th Story Time Church 3pm Ripon College Cuddesdon
- Mon 15th Parish council meeting Village Hall 7:30pm
- Tues 16th Senior Citizens S&SC 2:00 pm
- Fri 19th Friday Cafe St Mary's 10:00-12:00 noon
- Sun 21st Parish Communion St Mary's 09:30am
- Sun 28th Breakfast Communion St Mary's 09:30am

July

- Wed 1st Lunch Club Village Hall 12:30
- Sun 5th Parish Communion St Mary's 09:30am
- Mon 6th Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7:30pm
- Tues 7th Senior Citizens S&SC 2:00pm
- Sun 12th Parish Communion St Mary's 09:30am
- Sun 12th Story time Church 3pm Ripon College Cuddesdon
- Tues 14th Good Neighbours Tea and Cakes 2:30pm
- Wed 15th WI Village Hall 7:30pm
- Fri 17th Friday Cafe St Mary's 10:00-12:00
- Sun 19th Parish Communion St Mary's 09:30am
- Tues 21st Senior Citizens S&SC 2:00pm
- Thur 23rd Last Date for contributions to newsletter August/Sept**
- Sun 26th Breakfast Communion 09:30am

Front Cover - Kiln Lane Ponds, entrance - Paul Bolam

Please send me any photos you think would be suitable for the front cover - judithwestgate7144@gmail.com

Garsington Society

The Garsington Society's Annual Village Quiz once again proved to be one of the highlights of the village calendar, with a fantastic turnout and a wonderfully lively atmosphere at Garsington Primary School. Quizmaster Gary Leahy kept everyone entertained throughout the night with an excellent selection of questions that challenged even the sharpest teams, while still ensuring plenty of laughs along the way. The Garsington Society would like to thank everyone who attended, helped organise the evening, donated raffle prizes, and contributed to making the event such a success. It was a thoroughly enjoyable night and a wonderful example of the village coming together for a fun community occasion.

The Garsington Society is also delighted to announce another summer event for local residents. On Saturday 18th July, members and friends are invited to join a guided walk around the Hinksey Heights Trail with artist and environmentalist Mark Clay.

Participants should meet by the 19th Hole Café at 2pm (please see map for meet up point). Numbers are limited to 20 places, so early booking is recommended. Anyone interested should contact Yolande Wyer at Yolande.wyer@gmail.com.

There is no charge for the walk, although donations towards the St Mary's Church Fabric Fund would be very welcome.

Many thanks and Kind Regards, Stefi



From the Vicar

Dear Friends,

In my last 'from the Vicar,' I was looking forward to Holy Week and Easter. As I write this, we're heading towards the end of the Easter season. We recently celebrated Ascension Day, at St Mary's, with a Communion Service followed by Prosecco and cake; and I'm now looking forward to Pentecost (or Whit Sunday, 24th May), though by the time you read this Easter will be over and we'll be celebrating Trinity Sunday, then the long season of 'Sundays after Trinity,' or 'Ordinary Time.'

Ascension Day (40 days after Easter) marks the end of Jesus' post-resurrection ministry with (and appearances to) his disciples. It represents the day on which Jesus was taken up into heaven, to assume his throne there. It is followed, 10 days later, by Pentecost or Whitsun, when the promised Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus' disciples and filled them with power from on high. This wasn't just a 'one-off' occurrence. The Holy Spirit didn't descend at Pentecost and then disappear. Almost 2,000 years later, the Holy Spirit is still active in the church and – I believe – in the world, today. Jesus promised his disciples that the Holy Spirit would be with us for ever, and would abide with us and be in us. And we can still experience the power of the Holy Spirit today.

Some people experience the Holy Spirit in worship. John Wesley famously experienced the Holy Spirit at a religious meeting on Aldersgate Street, London, on 24 May 1738, and described how he felt his "heart strangely warmed," as his doubts disappeared. This event is considered to be the defining moment of the evangelical revival, and the spark for the Methodist movement.

continued on page 35



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Visit **Morland House Surgery Website** for a wealth of information and guidance on managing a vast number of health conditions, symptoms, and treatment: www.morland-house.co.uk

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- **Medical Records and Test Results** - guidance on how to access this information.
- **Pharmacy First Service (PFS)**, whereby pharmacies can treat directly seven common health conditions
- **Measles** – what to look for and treatment
-

Easy read newsletters about how the NHS is helping people with a learning disability and autism.

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Medicine waste costs the NHS around £300 million/year. Only order the medicines you need. Once medicine leaves a pharmacy it can no longer be re-used even if unopened.

Scam NHS cold calls - beware of fake calls from “receptionists” or “doctors” asking you to update your GP records or risk being removed from the surgery.



Barn Dance

Garsington Society Barn Dance, 2026.

Great Barn, Garsington Manor.

(by kind permission of Susan Darby)

Saturday 6th June, 7pm onwards.

Dancing to the Banana Band (with caller)

Bar

Hog roast or vegetarian option included.

Tickets: £15.00 adults. £10.00 12s and under.

For tickets contact Lorna Stevenson on
lorna_now@yahoo.co.uk & 01865 361671

**49****Holton - Cuddesdon - The Baldons / Kings Copse - Cowley - Oxford**

Oxfordshire County Council

Timetable valid from 01/04/2025 until further notice.

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

no service

Sundays

no service

Bank Holidays

no service

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

Oxfordshire County Council

Timetable valid from 01/04/2025 until further notice.

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
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

Saturdays

no service

Sundays

no service

Bank Holidays

no service

Service Restrictions: Th - Thursdays
Tu - TuesdaysNotes: Req - some places only served by arrangement with driver
r - Sets down by request to driver only
s - no boarding

continued from page 25

Other people experience the Holy Spirit as a “still, small voice,” which brings a sense of peace, even in difficult times. Others again receive charismatic gifts including speaking in tongues; resting in the Spirit; gifts of healing; or the reception of words, images, pictures or visions from God.

Every year, at the end of April, I attend a charismatic catholic conference called, On Fire Mission; where I see, feel and hear the Holy Spirit powerfully at work. My encounter with the Holy Spirit encourages, comforts, energises, strengthens and inspires me – just as the first disciples were encouraged, energised, strengthened and inspired on the first Day of Pentecost. This year, at On Fire Mission, one of the key-note speakers unsettled us with his talk ‘The Holy Spirit is not your friend,’ reminding us that the Holy Spirit can disturb and challenge us, and turn our lives upside-down. He (or, perhaps, she, or they) blows where he will. As C S Lewis once said of Aslan, “He is not a tame lion.” Neither Aslan nor the Holy Spirit can be controlled by human beings. They are wild, unpredictable, and not safe, “yet entirely good.”

I wonder where you have seen, or felt, the Holy Spirit at work in your life, or in the lives of others? I wonder what the Holy Spirit might be saying to you, today? I wonder what that phrase, ‘the Holy Spirit is not your friend,’ means to you, personally?

I pray that the Holy Spirit might comfort, strengthen, equip and empower you; and that your heart might be ‘strangely warmed’ as John Wesley’s was, almost 300 years ago.

God bless,
The Revd Tom



Open Garden at Tythe Barn, Garsington

Sunday 7th June 2026, 1.30-5pm. Entry £5 adults, children free.

Our lovely half acre garden featured in The English Garden Magazine in June 2025! Come and see it for yourself, and wend along the footpaths through our 2.5 acre wild flower meadow, where our apiary is situated. Wildflower leaflets, to help you identify the flowers, will be available. Children, and dogs on leads are very welcome. Children will be offered a wildlife quiz. The garden is wheelchair accessible, and there are accessible parking spaces at the house. All other parking is at Unipart 150 m away (drop off at the house is possible).

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>

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Red rust darkens the ivy, twisting strong branches
between years of hidden toil .

Men labouring before our time, beneath
the timbered roof .

Age finally takes its toll.
Rain forms a slow puddle.

Where once we sat and rested on the hay bale .
Dark, and out of sight .



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