



A 20mph Town?

Town Councillors march forward on traffic safety

20 mph – your views should matter!

Chipping Norton's Town Council want to join the County Council's 20mph Scheme for Towns, improving safety by reducing from 30 to 20 the speed limits in many more or all of Chippy's residential streets.



They need your views with a survey aimed at residents and visitors to be completed by 14 September. Witney

are going ahead but with some controversy, including a war of words between our MP and leading County & District Councillors. See page 4 for more and how to respond.

Progress on traffic safety plans

Chippy Councillors are also working hard now on longstanding HGV issues, and with the County Council on practical changes to road crossings and junctions, road signage, pedestrian and cycling paths and routes. It will need resources and community support – including volunteers to help enforce new speed limits and change mindsets. More inside.

A Level success

Chipping Norton School students Amy and Jake celebrate their A level grades after a 'tremendous' set of results for the School – following a challenging three years. Well done all. More inside.



What a show!



Photo: Stephen Furlonger, Lumino photography

Congratulations to Charlotte and Andrew Small – the first happy Chippy couple to marry on stage at The Theatre – our new wedding venue ... with a champagne reception followed by dinner and dancing at The Chequers next door

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- Plus all the usual Arts, Sports, Clubs, Schools and Letters pages*



Meeting Chippy's new Mayor and Deputy

Chipping Norton's 16 volunteer Town Councillors help champion our Town. As a parish council, they have few powers compared with County and District. But new Mayor Sandra Coleman and her Deputy Rachel Foakes volunteered as Councillors to try and 'make a difference', helping make Chippy a wonderful place to visit, live and work. The News Team joined them for coffee at the Old Mill.

Sandra – a passion for people and the planet!

Raised in High Wycombe – Sandra 'migrated' to Chippy 20 years ago, joking that she followed Parker Knoll here. In fact, she practised as an Optometrist after Cardiff University until 'family life got in the way'. She, husband Geoff (who now runs a medical care charity here and in Africa), and five children moved to Witney but then sought out Chipping Norton, preferring a smaller town with one good comprehensive school available to all. She got involved as a scout leader, helps at Christians Against Poverty, was Governor at two Chippy schools – then was persuaded to stand as Independent Town Councillor in 2019. Issues such as the environment and housing for young people are top of her list.

Rachel – advocate and good neighbour

With early life near Watford, Rachel studied modern history in Oxford. Her working career (now from home) is editing and writing educational books. She and husband Andrew (now teaching at Sibford School) lived in Hong Kong, Oxford and a village near Cropredy, before arriving five years ago in Chippy with three children. She loves it here, but did notice that good value family houses are scarce! With one child with a serious medical condition and learning difficulties, she learned to fight for the best support and be an advocate. With Lockdown in the Leys, she helped lead a valuable 'help your neighbour' shopping scheme, then in 2021, a neighbour (and a *Chippy News* article!) got her, to her surprise, to stand for Town Council

Learning and leading the Council

With many experienced Councillors and Guildhall staff retiring or resigning, and Covid hitting, these two new councillors had to learn fast. As Sandra told us, what seemed beforehand like dry, even boring roles like 'Cemetery or Town Hall Committee' became interesting, important, fun and gave her a 'great sense of place'. She dived into the detail of managing town assets – from toppling gravestones to Town Hall repairs, nagging WODC about our waste bins, smartening up the town centre, and planning Pool Meadow improvements. She led on climate crisis policies, grappled with the Council's sometimes unfathomable finances, and now leads on trying to influence the big East Chippy housing development. Becoming Mayor is a helpful platform.



Mayor Sandra (right) with Deputy Rachel

Supporting a positive ethos for the Town

Both Sandra and Rachel want the Council to build on Chippy's heritage, with an ethos that represents all different interests, as Rachel said, 'to help make our Town an inclusive, supportive, safe, and friendly place for everyone'. On specifics, this includes long term HGV and traffic issues, more town safety and 20mph improvements, encouraging walking and cycling, and better recreation facilities. She is keen to involve people on projects to protect our environment – starting with the Council (and hopefully others) being 'Pesticide Free'.

Involving the community

With these ambitions, our volunteer councillors want much more engagement with all different parts of community. Lockdown and Covid didn't help, but Sandra points now to a thriving 'Build Chippy Better' working group with excellent community expertise, enthusiasts joining enjoyable Cemetery Clear ups,, residents wanting involvement in road safety and 20mph, and more Chippy Christmas events. More community use of the Town Hall is a priority, plus grants to Chippy community projects – such as The Theatre's recent free lunches for families in need.

Newsletters and 'drop in' surgeries

Rachel is leading on making our Town Council much more accessible. The new website and social media are very useful. You are encouraged to attend or speak at Council meetings. There's now a monthly newsletter (sign up on line via the website), and informal Councillors' Surgeries in the Lower Town Hall, 10am–12noon on the last Saturday each month. The next is 24 September – drop in and say hello, get to know your councillors and share any concerns or suggestions. There is also coffee and cake! A new 'Facilities and Events officer' is also being recruited to add to the enthusiastic Guildhall team now back to full capacity (see advert page 7).

Why become a Councillor?

Next May, all 16 Town Council seats are up for election again. Sandra and Rachel hope to stand again – but why not think about standing yourself? Rachel said they'd love more people from across Chippy's wider community to volunteer and join a dynamic Town Council. She said, 'it's surprising what you can get done, you can help influence the Town's future, it's a fantastic way to meet people and gain new confidence and new skills'. Lots more, including Councillor contact details at www.chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk

Jane's party at the Palace



Jane with daughter Joanna at the Royal Garden Party

Back in May, Chipping Norton's Jane Philpott, who lives in Hailey Avenue, set off with her daughter Joanna O'Hara to Buckingham Palace for a wonderful Garden Party hosted by Prince William, Kate the Duchess of Cambridge, Prince Edward and his wife Sophie the Countess of Wessex. Jane's brother-in-law Kevin Clarke wrote to the *Chippy News* explaining that Jane had been invited because of her 40 years' service as a childminder in Chipping Norton. Over the last four decades over 200 children have started

their early years in Jane's care, with another 17 being fostered – many photographs adorn the walls! Kevin wrote, 'we as a family are very proud of her achievements. Jane and Jo were both nervous and excited, but felt it was a privilege to be invited in this the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Year'. Jane has also been collecting and organising transport to get baby and children's items for refugees in Ukraine and would like to thank all those who donated.

Sainsbury's site for sale

The major property site in Chipping Norton Town Centre, at 12–14 Market Place, which houses Sainsbury's supermarket, is up for sale at £5,350,000. Agents Colliers call it a 'prime investment opportunity with development potential in



affluent Cotswold town.....to extend the supermarket and provide residential on the two upper floors'. They say the upper floor development already has a 'positive pre-app' from the local 'Council'. There are 32 parking places existing at the rear. The site owner is Somerfield Stores Limited (a legacy from the previous supermarket business there) not Sainsbury's, but the owner leases it 'on assignment' to Sainsbury's on a 20-year lease that has five years left until January 2028, when it could be renewed. The sales brochure publicises the 'attractive covenant' of having Sainsbury's in situ as an ongoing lessee. For any buyer – and for intrigued shoppers in Chippy – the question will be whether Sainsbury's will continue, perhaps in an 'expanded' store, or leave a new owner to find another supermarket operator as partner, or have another use for the site after 2028.

Moving on from West St News

The end of July saw Mike Dixon and daughter Rachael (pictured) announce the closure of Chipping Norton's West Street Newsagents, much to the sadness of all the regular customers. The shop is one of the Town's very old trading premises. Back in the 18th century it belonged to Samuel West, a baker, with his bakehouse behind the premises. Later in the 19th century it was Packers Stores (see picture below of a Victorian Jubilee) and more recently was run as West Street Newsagents by John Podbury – with



Chippy's Mike Dixon and his family taking it over in 2014. Mike had been used to getting up early, after around 50 years working 'on the buses', and this was another 'post-retirement' hard-working adventure. More recently in 2021, his daughter Rachael took over the lead in the shop giving Mike a rest, with husband Stuart, the family, and colleague Barbara to help out.

But now they've had to take the difficult decision of closing in spite of wanting to carry on, with family commitments, health issues and rising costs all combining to make life difficult. The shop could now be re-let or the whole building put up for sale by the existing owner – perhaps with more residential accommodation in mind. Rachael and Mike hope the business might continue in some form and said 'we've had a wonderful time at the Newsagents. We've met lovely people and made good friends. We want to thank everyone for their support and kindness'.

Apply for Council Grants

Could your local organisation use some funds from Chipping Norton Town Council? They have a £26,000 budget this year (2022/23) to give grants to 'Voluntary Bodies' (local charities and community organisations). Last year £31,000 was

awarded to 17 local organisations. The Council's Community Committee has responsibility for allocating the money fairly. Applications, including reasons for funding and latest accounts, are requested by 25 September. The uses should be for local projects and activities that benefit the parish of Chipping Norton or some of its local residents.

Grants to Voluntary Bodies:
Applications now live - Chipping Norton
Town Council

Deadline: 25th September 2022
See website for more details or contact Katherine,
deputyclerk@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk

20mph scheme for Chipping Norton?

Chipping Norton Town Council has applied to be considered in Oxfordshire County Council's 20mph Scheme for Towns.

The Town Council wants to know your views – asking anyone who lives in, or travels to, Chipping Norton to complete an online survey. It can be found on their website or you can complete a form available at the Guildhall (see note below). Deadline is 14 September. The consultation, which the Town Council has to do as part of the OCC application, asks whether you support the 20mph scheme for Towns and whether you think all current 30mph areas here should become 20mph.

Cllr Mark Walker, Chair of the Town Council's Strategic Planning Committee and Traffic Advisory Sub-Committee, said 'The Town Council signalled its intent to improve our streets by implementing a 20mph

zone through the middle of town in 2019 – we are now delighted that we have an opportunity to extend this to a much

wider area of town with the aim of making our streets feel safer and more welcoming places for pedestrians and cyclists. We know from other areas around the country, and internationally that there is a wide acceptance of the benefits of 20mph in terms of reducing pollution, reducing harm caused by collisions with cars and making streets feel more pleasant. We welcome the consultation and would encourage all residents to take part'. Mayor Cllr Sandra Coleman said she was particularly keen 'to extend the current 20mph zone to cover our local schools, areas with many pedestrians, including parents with younger children, and young people making their first independent journeys'.



How to give your views by 14 September

deadline: The Town Council's 20 mph survey is mainly 'online only'. Go to their website www.chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk and click on words near the top saying 'Take part in our 20 mph survey'. You can use a computer free at the Library. The Town Council also has, at the Guildhall, forms you can fill in and they will enter the data for you. For survey queries or comments call into the Guildhall (Open 9–1 Mon–Fri), call 01608 641341 or email townclerk@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk

Making 20 the new 30

National momentum Many more 20mph schemes are now being rolled out in residential towns and villages. Wales hit the headlines in July voting to make 20mph the default speed limit across the country in residential areas to create safer, healthier, and quieter streets. In Oxfordshire, before the 2021 local election, the '20 is Plenty' campaign was building, but most funding for implementation had to come from town and parish councils. Hence ChippyTown Council's earlier limited scheme in 2019, just on town centre main roads. But now the new Lib Dem/Labour/Green OCC alliance is supporting a county-wide rollout, with funding.

Lowering speeds does divide people Some people love the idea, promising less noise, lower pollution and safer and more pleasant towns. The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence strongly supports it, citing better air quality, fewer casualties, reduced acceleration, and encouraging a shift from cars to non-polluting active choices such as walking and cycling. Others say it will cause traffic snarl-ups and drive custom away from our town centres and even increase air pollution, although Imperial College's research suggests such speed limits do not worsen exhaust emissions.

Witney takes the lead A week after the Welsh 'everybody 20mph' decision, Oxfordshire's Leader Cllr Liz Leffman announced that Witney would become the first town here to embrace 20mph in most current 30mph residential areas, a direct result of Oxfordshire County Council's 20mph recent policy change and associated programme, costing, they say, £8m over the next three years. West Oxfordshire District (now also under Lib Dem, Labour and Green control) and Witney Town Council are both backing the

scheme, with Witney Mayor Liz Duncan saying it would bring improved road safety, reduce risks of death and injury, improve air quality and increase physical activity.



Enforcement problem Supporters say town-wide 20mph schemes can encourage a change in driver and pedestrian mindsets as a habit, but, as evidenced by Chippy's early 20mph pilots, enforcement and compliance are major issues. Police say they have no resources to help enforcement with speed checks. OCC say local measures such as traffic calming or flashing speed indicator devices (SIDs) have to be funded by parish councils and run by Speedwatch volunteers which will need organising – and will Police provide any help? The residents down Chippy's New Street will attest to countless 20mph speeding infringements having gone unrecorded and unpunished.

Political football! Such changes become political. OCC conducted an online-only public consultation in Witney (population 30,000) which had less than 300 responses, with only 33% in favour of 20mph while over half were against. OCC and local councillors pressed on, saying 'benefits outweighed concerns'. Conservative MP Robert Courts posted on Facebook 'Yet again the Liberal-Labour-Green coalition running County Hall are dismissing local opinion to plough ahead with their ideologically-driven agenda'. He continued 'Instead of wasting taxpayer money on pointless political gestures that do more harm than good, I am urging County Hall to start listening to local people and focus on West Oxfordshire's real priorities'. Perhaps all our local politicians could turn down the rhetoric and work better together?

The News welcomes any views from our readers.

HGV and road safety issues



Improved signage & safety items should make pedestrians safer

Back in March and May two full Town Hall meetings heard County and District Cabinet Member Duncan Enright acknowledge Chipping Norton's long-held concerns about both HGVs through town and pedestrian safety on our town centre main roads, and that action should be a priority. Chippy Councillors are still keeping up the pressure – including through an HGV working group, and our Traffic Advisory Committee. So where are we, five months later?

Firstly, on HGVs, the Town Council is right now erecting signage that hopefully will discourage HGVs from using the London Road past Holy Trinity School, instead getting them to use the Banbury Road via the Shell garage roundabout. For the longer term substantive HGV solution, Chippy County Councillor Geoff Saul says that the now-amended versions of Oxfordshire's Local Transport and Freight Strategies are aiming for an 'A44 Corridor Strategy'. This idea, proposed but dropped by OCC years back, will in effect downgrade or change the status of the A44 main road so that the only HGV use will be for access to local towns. This will require other stakeholders, including neighbouring towns and counties, to agree. Cllr Saul cannot give any timetable – and our Town Councillors admit 'expectations will have to be managed'.

Secondly, on town safety 'hotspots', after the Town Hall meetings, OCC officers and our councillors are looking at pedestrian danger spots such as the crossings at New Street (August saw a further accident, following the tragic fatality last March – see Letters p34), West Street and Albion Street – and pavements at Horsefair. Another survey this September (mainly for West and New Streets) is imminent. But at July's Traffic Advisory Committee the OCC officer attending promised no specific 'timelines' for changes – and did say resources need to be found. Finally, Town Councillor Steve Akers has made progress working with OCC to improve signage for speed limits, safety items such as bollards and islands, and cutting back trees obscuring signs and view. And, of course, more 20mph limits in Chippy could be coming (see separate article). Steve said Councillors will look at the best way to extend the Speedwatch scheme. Town Councillors are also working with OCC on another project for cycling and walking routes (see letters page).

Work starting at The Branch

The project team at The Branch community hub (the old NatWest Bank building in Market Place) are looking forward to building works starting. Rising costs and supply chain challenges meant some re-thinking of the plans. However, good progress has been made and the team are aiming for a start date in the second half of September so that it will not interfere with the Chippy Mop Fair. You'll know the work is starting when you see the hoardings go up at the front of the

building. 'Infographic' panels will explain the purpose and plans for The Branch and keep everyone informed of progress. The team is liaising with local businesses, homeowners and market traders to minimise disruption. If you have any questions or concerns please email build@thebranchtrust.org.

Philip Sharman – The Branch Trust

Chippy's celebrity summer!

It's apparently been a busy celebrity summer in Chipping Norton (or, rather, slightly outside town!) and we're not just talking the odd Jeremy Clarkson or David Beckham sighting. Hollywood's Tom Cruise decided to spend his 60th birthday at Soho Farmhouse, with newspaper reports listing British chums Simon Pegg and James Corden on the guest list at the members' club; it's thought 'Maverick' has been a member of Soho House for around 20 years. The *Top Gun* star was rumoured to have invited The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge – but, with no cameras allowed inside the posh Farmhouse compound, we'll never know.

Next to visit Chippy, and happily pose for selfies, was Simon Cowell, seen smiling away in Middle Row's Tickittysshake and High Street's Mr Simms Olde Sweet Shoppe, where our music mogul spent time browsing sweet treats with son Eric and fiancée Lauren Silverman. Seems like he's given Chippy the Golden Buzzer for customer service! The couple's upcoming autumn wedding could, according to some, be in their Cotswold home nearby. A little less Hollywood, perhaps, was Boris and Carrie Johnson's wedding party, hastily relocated from Chequers to the Daylesford Estate hosted by Tory donor and JCB owner Lord Bamford. Helicopters buzzed around the Town's airspace as guests gathered for the party with a heart-shaped motif spotted in a field near a giant marquee. There were no pictures of the house or celebrations, as the Bamfords protect their Daylesford privacy and security carefully.



Simon Cowell's selfie with Nicola Hogan outside her Sweet Shoppe

Will our birth unit ever reopen?

Chipping Norton's Cotswold Birth Centre – run by midwives from Oxford University Hospital NHS Trust – has been closed to births for 12 months with no timetable for reopening. Ante- and postnatal clinics are still available. The unit, along with Wantage's small Maternity Unit, closed largely because of staffing and safety issues across the whole OUH maternity service – notably at the JR Hospital. Over 12 months, various statements have suggested reopening 'soon' or 'in a few weeks' but all 'subject to safe staffing'. The OUH maternity service was given 'a requires improvement' rating by the Care Quality Commission last year, and is still working an remedial action plan set out last September. There have been issues related to Covid (including staff absences), but many issues are wider – similar to the rest of the UK – including problems recruiting both clinical and non-clinical

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staff. In July a Parliamentary Select Committee described the England's maternity services as 'unsustainable'.

A statement to the News in August by OUH simply repeated that Chippy's unit was 'not currently open for births. This is due to staffing problems that we are working hard to resolve.' The News Team responded, asking for more reassurance to combat local fears that Chippy's closure could become permanent. In reply, the OUH's Chief Nursing Officer 'confirmed this situation is not unique to OUH'. She added 'we are working with the Region, CQC, and HOSC (the Scrutiny Committee) to assess and mitigate current workforce constraints' which mean they can't staff all units.

Pool Meadow conservation

After recent discussions by Town Councillors and local stakeholders, a feasibility study for restoring the environment at Chipping Norton's historic Pool Meadow is starting. After



a presentation at their July meeting, Councillors agreed to commission Chippy resident Jonny Ackroyd from Beaumont Rivers to conduct the study – a budget of £3425 has been agreed. Pool Meadow, the natural site alongside the stream below New Street Recreation Ground, is linked with the Scheduled Ancient Monument of the motte and bailey castle and fishponds. Mr Ackroyd's proposal notes that the Pool Meadow lower pond was drained and silted up years back and 'colonised' by horsetail which has somewhat 'out-competed' all other ecology. He will look at restoration ideas, including introducing a pond or wetland area, replanting the meadow, improving existing footpaths for access, and installing information boards about the ecology and wildlife. It is a chance to engage local people with history, and help wildlife and endangered species such as bees, voles, newts and birds. His report will include a costed action plan, maps and designs.

Feasibility work, taking a few weeks, will include a site survey by a chartered ecologist, and liaison with the Environment Agency, Natural England, Historic England, landowner, and planning authority – to identify further consents or planning work needed. Mr Ackroyd will liaise with the Council's Pool Meadow Working Party. He has already visited the site with Chippy resident and former County Ecologist Craig Blackwell, who supports the study and hopes it will also highlight Pool Meadow's links with the nearby wider landscape corridor. Clive Rand, Chair of the Green Gym, who has taken an active interest, also supports the project. He has been worried that Pool Meadow was under threat of being overrun, for example by shrub growth, unless something is done. He noted that there will be challenges, for example with insufficient stream water, and the time for getting all the right approvals from the various bodies.

National Racehorse Week

From 10–18 September, venues including training yards, studs, retraining and rehoming centres (eg: the gold standard HEROS www.heroscharity.org) are organizing hundreds of events to mark this special week. It's the brainchild of local trainer Richard Phillips at Adlestrop, who is pictured with



Photo: Janos Borbely Equine Photography

some of the team during the Week last year. Richard said, 'I am delighted that, once again, we are celebrating the racehorse with the second National Racehorse Week. It is an ideal opportunity to show the world the incredible love and care racehorses receive and share the joy and happiness they give in return. We welcome everyone to witness the human devotion that Thoroughbreds receive throughout their lives.' Last year, 11,000 places were booked in advance and the digital reach was 15 million. Some 95% of attendees had a positive impression of racing. It provided an excellent platform on which to build bigger and better this year. 'We would like more non "core" people to attend in September, that is, first-timers to racing' added Richard. (www.richardphillipsracing.com)

Events at Adlestrop include a short Sunday Thanksgiving service, plus interviews with farriers, vets and physios. There will be demonstrations by world renowned Yogi Breisner explaining how he encourages young horses to jump, and Godolphin Stud and Stable Staff Award winner Dulcie West who will give a dressage display on a retrained racehorse. Racing is the second most viewed sport in the country and the only major sport where males and females compete on an equal footing. With Rachael Blackmore and Hollie Doyle flying the flag for female jockeys there are opportunities aplenty for young women. To find out all the events taking place in our area see nationalracehorseweek.uk. Enjoy!

Ideas for Town Hall uses

Chipping Norton Town Council are starting a significant five-year programme of expenditure on the Town Hall. They are also recruiting a new staff member to look at marketing and using the Town Hall – particularly for the community (See advert p7). Councillors recently looked at improvements and usage at both Witney Corn Exchange and Brackley Town Hall, which is a Palladian-style building similar to Chippy's. Brackley were, in fact, awarded £3.5m from the Heritage Lottery and have restored their building beautifully to include a café/wine bar, which helps with income. Witney Town Council run the Corn Exchange as an Arts and Community Centre with a lobby bar/café open to the public and for hiring. Future projects for Chipping Norton might also look at schemes involving Heritage Lottery Funding. Meanwhile, a properly documented and measured survey of our Town Hall is in progress.

Diddly restaurant 'loophole'

After planning permission was refused for his Diddly Squat farm shop site restaurant, Jeremy Clarkson duly opened a restaurant this summer at a different barn some distance away. Expressing some satisfaction, Mr Clarkson told journalists, 'we're opening anyway. Everyone at Diddly Squat has spent three months becoming expert in planning regulations and we've found a delightful little loophole'. With little public explanation of the said loophole the News investigated. A 2015 change to Planning Regulations allows conversion of an agricultural building to other uses, subject to conditions. It must have been solely in agricultural use since 2012, or at least 10 years, not listed nor scheduled. Buildings under 500m² can be used for storage, distribution, commercial, business or services, including a restaurant, or even hotel, once the Local Authority has been given what is called Prior Notification and proof of no harm to highways, noise, contamination nor flooding. The Times quoted Mr Clarkson saying the chosen barn met the criteria and 'We sent the Council an email on Wednesday night and on Thursday it was like something from Challenge Anneka to get it ready'.



Dining alfresco at the 'loophole' location

However, any associated building changes could need planning permission – which Mr Clarkson was clearly keen to avoid. The Diddly Squat website warns restaurant bookers 'it's small, mostly outdoors and very rustic. Ordering a beer or going to the lavatory isn't as easy as in your local pub and we don't cater for the faddy. We've done our best to keep you warm and dry, but this is England'. Guests climb into a trailer towed by tractor from the shop to the barn. Apart from a tiny VIP shepherd hut, eating is entirely al fresco, and the WC is a port-a-loo a tractor-ride away, with 'quad bikes available for those in a rush'. But fans don't seem put off – travelling miles for the unique outdoor dining experience. The Chadlington Road car parking issues remain – with just the small farm shop car park, a bit of field and the roadside (despite cones). The new restaurant has a temporary food licence. To be permanent, more stringent regulations would apply, a potential source of more planning battles. Wet weather could limit al fresco dining but Amazon Prime co-star Kaleb Cooper was quoted saying, 'We'll cross that (bridge) when it comes. I will come up with a solution, I am sure of it'. WODC are looking at the new restaurant set-up 'to ensure it is compliant with local and national planning law and policies, and licensing and food hygiene regulations'. Meanwhile, beer, burger and souvenir sales in the Farm Shop continue as ever, or should we say beer and burger sales continue, as does sale of potatoes at £24 each with a 'free' T-shirt. Planning rules ... what planning rules?

Walterbush Road bus shelter

After another bus user's request, Chippy Town Council has agreed to get perspex ends fitted on the recently re-erected bus shelter on Walterbush Road, to provide some protection from our chilly wind and rain. Also, after the somewhat mysterious appearance of four large empty wooden planters (where the old bus stop seat used to be), Councillors have taken action because passers by were depositing rubbish. Soil has appeared along with newly installed plants – including several herbs. Watering and maintenance of the planters will be needed – especially during the hot weather!



Great Rollright Bingo

Bingo returns to Great Rollright after the summer break and all are invited! The next event is on Friday 23 September in Great Rollright Village Hall. It's a fun evening for young and old with cash prizes! Doors open 7pm, games start at 7.30pm and it's normally finished at 9.15pm. Bar and refreshments. Non-profit making event with all proceeds to local causes. Next bingo dates are 21 October and 18 November. Eyes Down Look In! For further info email: grrbingo@aol.com

Duncan Midwood

Join Our Team



Could you be Chipping Norton Town Council's Facilities and Events Officer?



Are you brilliant at organising events, innovative and a dynamic project manager?

We would love to hear from you!

**For more details and how to apply:
www.chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk/vacancies**

Closing date Monday 12th September 2022



'Build Chippy Better' – latest news

The County Council's long awaited Masterplan for the 1000+ new homes and community facilities at East Chipping Norton is still delayed.

Chipping Norton Town Council's 'Build Chippy Better' Working Group, now chaired by Mayor Sandra Coleman, meets next on 12 September, working hard to influence how any plan can best ensure a sustainable future for Chippy. Here are some updates.



What's best from elsewhere?

In July the Council's Working Group visited some relevant new sites elsewhere – asking how the 1000+ new East Chipping Norton homes could make a positive contribution to our town. At Kingsmere, SW Bicester, they saw a variety of design approaches, led by a comprehensive Design Code, for a major spine road through a development. At Graven Hill



they appreciated the need to integrate housing of all tenures. At Elmsbrook, NW Bicester, the country's only remaining 'Eco Town' they were impressed by the green credentials of the 'true net zero' homes (pictured), and

by the community engagement and after-care from the lead developer remaining on site. Cala Homes (one of the East Chippy landowners), offered a guided tour of their site at Wolvercote Mill, which follows a strict Design Code showing that high volume home builders can 'build better' when required to. The Working Group looked at what works well and what can be improved on at East Chippy – and will produce notes that others can use if they visit.

Eynsham ruling 'disaster' for Chippy?

In July a crucial planning decision about plans for the new Garden Village at Eynsham (now called Salt Cross) have put a black cloud over prospects for East Chippy being a fully sustainable development. Our Town Council are particularly strong on achieving net zero carbon homes in line with national (and indeed Oxfordshire's) objectives. But one big barrier is that national planning policies for new housing currently don't make this compulsory, even though many local planning authorities are trying to set such tougher standards. For the 2200-home Salt Cross project, local WODC planners proposed strong policies saying that all Salt Cross development specifications had to demonstrate net zero carbon outcomes – using ultra low energy fabrics, low carbon technologies and on-site renewable energy generation. Any planning applications and building work would be monitored to ensure this happened.

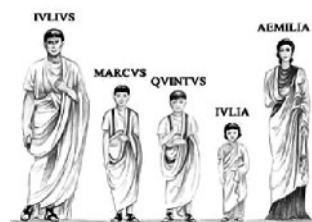
But the Salt Cross developers and landowners were not happy and after a public enquiry the Planning Inspector ruled that the policy could not be enforced – it did not align with national legislation. Instead of WODC's exemplar plan, the Planning Inspector wants WODC to adopt the policies considered by many as ineffective, which have led to the 'anywhere' and sub-optimum housing developments nationally. So much for the COP26 aims in Glasgow! WODC

are, naturally, furious after all the work put in to mitigate climate impacts. Similar constraints on WODC planners at East Chipping Norton could threaten the exemplar development that the 'Build Chippy Better' team are hoping for.

The pressure will turn to Oxfordshire County Council as major landowner, and Cala as owner/developer to decide for themselves how 'green' to go. With extra financial pressures being placed on local authorities by the Government, OCC may likely want to take as much of the East Chippy land value to balance their books – rather than spend it on greener homes and improvements for our community. Such action could have long-lasting negative effects. We can keep the pressure up, perhaps now on our MP and the Government to update a failing national policy.

Glyme Lane's Roman news

As reported before, planning for the East Chipping Norton housing site stalled back in May while archaeological investigations were carried out in fields off Glyme Lane. Amongst other things, evidence of a significant Roman settlement has been suggested. Results are unlikely to be public for some time. Fieldwork was carried out in May and June with findings and results now being evaluated. Oxfordshire County Council's Lead Archaeologist Richard Oram advised on the need for, and standards expected of, this work, but is not himself managing the evaluation work. This is being done by experts Wessex Archaeology on behalf of Cala Homes' archaeological consultants, RPS. In July Mr Oram told Chipping Norton Town Council that, 'The post-fieldwork stage of the evaluation of, cleaning and analysing the finds, processing and analysis of environmental samples and interpretation of what was found to aid in the production of an acceptable report, has always been the larger part of the evaluation process.' Wessex Archaeology were initially aiming for a draft report in August but complexities with the findings could delay that. Chippy's Deputy Town Clerk Katherine Jang is following developments closely but said that Town Council and public may not see any report until it has been reviewed by bodies such as Historic England and the County Council.



Chippy locals??

Have you found something?

Chipping Norton Archaeological Research Group (CHARG) is joining forces with the Museum to hold a **Finds Day** with a visiting expert at the Museum on Saturday, 8 October 11am–4pm. You can take along any objects of interest that you have found while out and about in the area. More on page 29.

Documenting Chippy's history



Advert for Hitchman's Brewery c1885 – the original is in the Museum

The Victoria County History (VCH) is a national research project which looks at the history of villages and towns and, for a couple of years, the small Oxfordshire team has been focusing on Chipping Norton and surrounding parishes. Research on the Town is pressing on apace and

several new draft sections have just been added to the VCH website. They cover the Town's medieval origins and later development, its secular buildings (including the former castle), history of its manors and landed estates, and its economy from medieval wool trade through to present day. A section on the Town's religious history will be added in the autumn, including details of St Mary's Church and other religious buildings, and other sections cover Over Norton, Hook Norton, Great and Little Rollright, Salford, and Swerford.

This is leading up to a hardback VCH volume planned for 2024. Meanwhile, the team welcomes corrections and additional information, which should be sent to simon.townley@history.ox.ac.uk. Anyone interested in finding out more should visit history.ac.uk/research/victoria-county-history/county-histories-progress/oxfordshire (for

Chipping Norton scroll down to County Histories in Progress), or just Google 'VCH Oxfordshire'. History buffs should note that historian and broadcaster Michael Wood is giving a lecture, in support of VCH, in Oxford on 26 September – details and tickets (£15 inc glass of wine) from www.eventbrite.co.uk (search for Michael Wood).

Simon Townley

Second Hand September

Second Hand September is a campaign, organised by Oxfam, to encourage people to buy only second hand items for the 30 days in September. Climate change is impossible to ignore – and it's pushing people deeper into poverty. So, it's more important than ever to act now, to prevent this global crisis from becoming a global catastrophe. The team at Chippy's Oxfam Bookshop are supporting the campaign, pointing out that when a new pair of jeans is made, an estimated 16.2kg of



CO₂ is emitted – the equivalent of driving over 58 miles in a car. So, by recirculating our clothes – buying, wearing and donating second hand – we can help to reduce demand for new clothes. And by shopping with Oxfam, you're investing in vital work to beat poverty – standing with communities worldwide as they fight the climate crisis and speak out against global inequalities that push people deeper into poverty.

Use hashtag #SecondHandSeptember on Instagram, TikTok and Twitter when you post your finds, and don't forget to tag @OxfamGB! Use hashtag #SecondHandSeptember with any second hand item you buy, but when you shop with Oxfam, not only are you helping to keep clothes out of landfill and refreshing your wardrobe without costing the earth, you're also helping raise money to help people beat poverty. Sign up for the Second Hand September challenge today and you'll receive a 20% discount voucher for Oxfam's Online shop. This also applies to books and, if you are about to start Uni or return to study History, English Literature, Fine Arts, History of Art, Architecture or Design, there's a wealth of useful books in the bookshop for very reasonable prices. Also for music students there is a wide range of sheet music.

Liz Atkins

Names they are a-changing

In June Chipping Norton Town Council agreed a proposal (in the interests of equality and modern practice) to change the way Councillors' names are recorded. Firstly, on the Mayoral Board in the Town Hall Council Chamber, all mayors will be recorded as 'Cllr First Name Surname'. Up to now, female mayors have had the prefix Mrs or Miss; male mayors have had no title. Also, only first name initials were shown. The new approach acknowledges that titles are not needed but shows full names. Secondly, Council meeting minutes will now say

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LOCAL NEWS

'Cllr First Name Surname'. In years past, female titles were used and until recently only first name initials were used.

u3a's Town Hall Open Day

Are you recently retired or semi-retired? If so, this is for you! Chippy u3a are holding their first Open Day since Lockdown, on 23 September from 11am until 3pm in Chipping Norton



A stall at u3a's last Open Day

Town Hall, to show how to make the most of your retirement. The idea of u3a is to teach and learn from each other, strictly for pleasure, in a relaxed and social environment. All members are invited to a monthly Town Hall meeting with professional speaker. But the core activity is the smaller Interest Groups, meeting in members' homes unless a larger or specialised space is needed. They exercise bodies (Walking, Table Tennis, Bowls), minds (French, Italian, Books, Playreading), just relax (Lunch) or practise skills (Crafts, Knitting for Charity, Painting). Members also admire others' hard work in Garden Visits and Architecture & Design Groups. New Groups are formed whenever three or more people decide to explore a new subject. The Open Day (with free homemade cakes and drinks) is a chance to meet Group members and find out what they do. So, to make new friends, take up a new interest or revive an old one, or take on a new challenge, come along. Membership is for anyone no longer working full time. u3a is local, social, friendly and inexpensive (£15pa).

FarmED autumn events

There is something for everyone this autumn at FarmED, based at Honeydale Farm on the Burford Road towards Shipton-under-Wychwood. It's the new centre for farm and food education, focusing on the crucial link between good food and food farming. Some of the activities include **Emergent Generation 22** over 2-4 September. FarmED is helping to create a new network of young people who are passionate about food systems that protect and enhance our environment, create thriving communities and deliver affordable healthy food. **Defending & Celebrating Sustainable Beef** with Nicolette Hahn Niman is on 16 September, a special event exploring how cattle can be good for the planet and the role of beef in a healthy balanced diet. **The Agroforestry Design Masterclass** on 24-25 September explains about integrating trees into your farming business. **Regenerative Farming: Soil Health Fundamentals** on 26 September covers how to create healthy soils and resilient fields while reducing reliance on inputs, even during droughts. **Biodiversity Farm Walk & Lunch** on 30 September explores the habitats at Honeydale

Farm on a biodiversity-themed farm walk, led by local ecologist, Katherine Holmes. **An Introduction to Care Farming** is on 5 October, all about using farming to support individuals with education, health or social care issues through purposeful work, outdoor activities and social interactions. Sign up for FarmED's newsletter to keep up-to-date at www.farm-ed.co.uk.

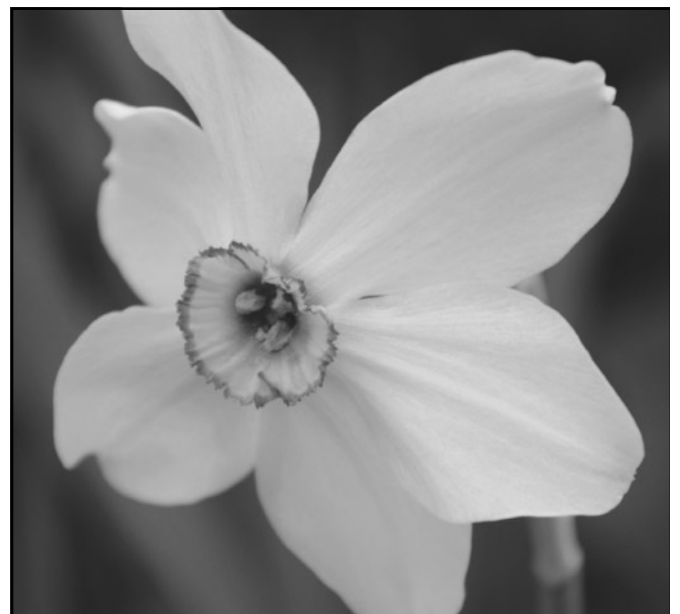
Apple Day at Orchard

Are you ready for Autumn Plenty? Boughs, heavy with apples, are propped up at Chipping Norton's Community Orchard (off the Worcester Road). Please come and 'Pick me now' when and where advised. The windfalls will be pressed for juice on Apple Day. If your gardens and by-ways are similarly endowed, bring them along on Sunday, 25 September from 12 noon-3pm, and take home pure apple juice. While you're there, enjoy the rural traditions of wassailing with Charlbury and Finstock Morris (1pm), the Bodger with his lathe, hand-made walking sticks, and kids make-your-own Green Man mask – all accompanied by delicious refreshments. Donations in the bucket or wellies will keep our Community Orchard going for another year. Apples can be collected in advance of the day, contact rheatherleonard@yahoo.co.uk for more information.



Heather Leonard

(See Club News p28 for the Green Gym report of its work to prepare the Community Orchard for Apple Day – Ed)



Annual Bulb Bonanza at Whichford Pottery

Friday 23rd September to Sunday 2nd October - 10am to 4pm
For a colourful spring garden, choose from a glorious selection of top quality spring bulbs, all direct from our favourite Dutch supplier. Plus, large range of pots perfect for bulbs.

Whichford Pottery, Whichford, Nr. Shipston-on-Stour, Warks, CV36 5PG
Tel: 01608 684416 www.whichfordpottery.com

LOCAL NEWS

Lido's lovely summer!

After a cool, damp and slow start to the season, the heatwaves helped keep The Lido busy and it was great seeing so many faces old and new coming through the doors: thanks to everyone for the support. As well as leisure/fitness swimming, it was inspiring to see youngsters at the swimming lessons gaining confidence. Many visitors also enjoyed Aquafit, Artistic swimming, Yoga, Tai Chi and the newest addition, the



The magical Solstice Swim

HIIT class. The Lido Team were delighted to link up with Active Oxfordshire's YouMove initiative to offer low-cost swimming to eligible families, and to work with The Theatre to deliver the Holiday Activities & Food programme to local children.



The season's closing date is Sunday 11 September (boo!) but comes with the return of the famous Dog Swim (hurrah!). For any tickets that are still available, visit our website chippylido.co.uk. As one season comes to an end, the Team behind The Lido will look at what needs to be done ready for 2023 and beyond. You could be part of that: if you'd like to be involved in running this fantastic community facility for your, your children's, and local families' future enjoyment, please email info@chippylido.co.uk outlining what skills you could bring as voluntary committee trustees or as ad hoc/occasional volunteers.

Claire Williamson

Help Camilla's Lido swim

Throughout these long summer months we are grateful for a swim at the lovely outdoor Chipping Norton Lido. Saved from



closure some years ago with popular local support, it's a community facility reliant on its users, local donations and the annual Auction of Promises. This year keen swimmer Camilla Notman swam the distance of the Channel (32km) raising £1,000 for bone cancer research. She has now set herself the challenge of trying to swim the same distance before the Lido closes – this time raising funds for The Lido itself. If you can help, please make a donation via Camilla's Just Giving page totalgiving.co.uk/mypage/camillanotman or contact her via 07778 240993.

Swim for £1 at Leisure Centre

Chipping Norton Leisure Centre's indoor pool – run by Better – is continuing the 'swim for a £1' scheme for Under 16s this autumn. It ran during the summer and the offer will continue at weekends when the school term starts. Also don't forget Better's Swim School tuition lessons from complete beginners to the more experienced.

St Mary's groups and courses

The team at St Mary's Church in Chipping Norton are excited to be getting their groups and courses restarted after the summer break. Whether you are looking to make friends or try new creative activities at Connect Café, have fun and enjoy friendship at Come to Tea, bring your little one along to Mary's Minis, or invest in your mental and emotional wellbeing at Kintsugi Hope, then they would love to see you! More information from hannah.charles@stmaryscnorton.com.

Help with debt & rising costs

Is everything getting too much? There is help available in Chipping Norton if you are struggling financially. The cost of living rise is making things difficult for many of us, and at CAP (Christians Against Poverty) they want to help. The next Life Skills Course starts in October and will help you learn to budget, make savvy shopping decisions, and learn skills to live well on a low income or if money is stretched. It is also a great place to make friends and grow in confidence, all in a relaxed and fun environment. For more details contact Hannah at hannahcharles@caplifekills.org. If you are struggling with debt and need advice and support, the CAP team are also here to help. Please get in touch with ianfinney@capuk.org.

Hannah Charles – St Mary's Church



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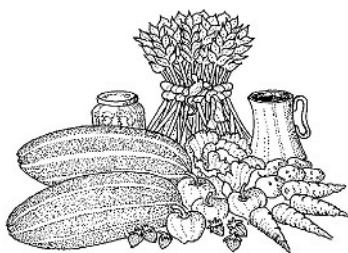
St Andrew's Rollright news

The next Quiz Night is on Saturday 1 October at 7pm for 7.30pm start. The theme will be 'harvest' as the church celebrates Harvest Festival the next day. St Andrew's Church in Great Rollright is open every day. Services continue every Sunday – Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sunday at 10am, Morning Worship 2nd Sunday at 10am and Prayer Book Holy Communion at 8am on 4th Sunday. The church can now accept contactless donations at the machine by the door of the church. It's hoped, that as people are going cashless, it might encourage a few more donations from those visiting the church during the week. See the Facebook page or AChurchNearYou.com for news of what we've got going on.

Sarah Durham

Time for Harvest Festival

It's harvest time and Chippy is surrounded by parched fields echoing to the rumble of combine harvesters. The heat has meant that harvesting is two weeks earlier than usual and some yields are low due to the drought.



This, and the effects on grain supplies of the war in Ukraine, have taught even 'townies' who thought that bread came from supermarkets, to understand more about challenges of getting food from field to table and to be very grateful for the food we eat. Giving thanks for successful harvests is as old as humankind, and Harvest Suppers were an important event in rural communities. The Harvest Festival traditional in Christian Churches was a Victorian invention. A News Team member on holiday in Cornwall recently visited the church at Morwenstow and learned that the first Harvest Festival was apparently held there in 1843, when the Vicar invited his parishioners to a special service to give thanks for the harvest. Subsequently Victorian hymns such as *We plough the fields and scatter* and *Come ye thankful people, come* helped to popularise his idea and spread the annual custom of decorating churches with home-grown produce for the Harvest Festival service.

Local Harvest Festivals

Methodist – Sunday 18 September at 11am. The service will be led by Tony Gibson from Westcote. All donations welcome. Any tinned and dried goods will be donated to the Food Bank. Stay for a light lunch after the service and then fresh produce will be auctioned. Proceeds go to All I Can, an international development and emergency relief charity supporting local people in the world's poorest communities.

Church of England – local ones include: Chipping Norton St Mary's 9 October at 10.30am; Chastleton St Mary's 18 September at 5.30pm; Little Compton St Denys' 25 September at 4pm; Cornwell St Peter's 2 October at 5pm; Great Rollright St Andrew's 2 October at 10am; Salford St Mary's 9 October at 11am; Little Rollright St Philip's 16 October at 11am.

See notice boards outside other local churches nearer the time for details of any other Harvest Festival services

Chippy Methodists update

At the Methodist Church, the August 'cuppa and chat' for charity saw Chris Stratta talking about the Leprosy mission and everyone was thrilled to raise over £125 for the mission which will treat five people suffering from leprosy. September's charity will be Katharine House Hospice supported with the proceeds of



the cuppa and chat on Wednesday 7 September 9.30–11.30 in the Church Hall, with other weekly cuppas every Wednesday. One Saturday in June, the Proms came to the Methodist Church when the singing group entertained everyone with a selection of favourite songs ending with Mark playing the organ. There was a rousing night at the Proms singalong!

Elaine Parsons

Shuttle Bus drivers needed

After a short break during Lockdown, the easily recognised red Chippy Shuttle bus is nearly back to normal service. The bus does an hourly town circuit from the Health Centre to Southerndown, via the Co-op and other stopping points. The journey charge is £1.50 for adults, 70p for children. Timetables are at www.villagerbus.co.uk/ To maintain this invaluable service, particularly for the elderly and shoppers, Villager Chair Keith Gowing tells the News 'the pool of volunteer drivers is steadily shrinking and we are finding it increasingly difficult to keep the day-round service going. If you or anyone you know could offer a couple of hours a week to drive around town, please contact me at 01608 811617 or Paul Branch on 01608 659749.' Anyone under 70 with a current driving licence is eligible and training is given until any new driver feels confident with the vehicle on the route. This is a service the Town cannot afford to lose.

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Pottery's Bulb Bonanza



Are your Green Fingers at the ready? From Friday 23 September to Sunday 2 October, Whichford Pottery host their 'Bulb Bonanza', offering a selection of top-quality bulbs from specialist Dutch supplier, Rene. Included is a range of old favourites and some more unusual varieties, such as tulips, hyacinths, crocus and

more. Find bulbs suitable for pots or borders. Best planted in autumn, spring-flowering bulbs bring much-needed colour to your garden after winter, bridging the transition from spring to summer. On Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 September, Fibrex Nurseries are at Whichford Pottery selling a range of ferns and hederas. Whether you're choosing your first fern or are more experienced, the team will be on hand to answer questions and help choose the right fern for your garden. A range of handmade pots, perfect for bulbs, will also be available.

Town Cemetery news update

Chipping Norton Town Councillors, at July's Community Committee meeting, agreed to set aside an area of Worcester Road's town cemetery for families requesting special raised kerb designs for their memorials. In recent years, Chipping Norton and other towns and parishes have discouraged this, as it causes difficulties for maintenance and grass-cutting. This has caused some upset. One local family already had a raised kerb grave and recently wanted to bury a loved one alongside with a matching design. Councillors, as part of their decision, took note of some preferences for different groups in society – for example as explained in a recent helpful document on 'Cemetery Burials and Traditions for Gypsy and Traveller Communities'. For a memorial in the new area, there will be an extra moderate charge for installing kerb sets, to cover additional grounds maintenance. The Council is not

responsible for structural maintenance of the kerb sets themselves. Councillors have also agreed to put up a new and improved Cemetery Welcome and Information/Regulations Board at the entrance.



Don't miss the Santa Express

Ready for Christmas? Bookings for tickets for the massively popular Santa Express on the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway at Toddington open on 1 September. Don't miss out. Details on www.gwsr.com.

New memorial benches

Two new benches are to be installed in Chipping Norton acknowledging the contribution to the Town of two longstanding Councillors who recently passed away. Eve Coles will have a bench in her name in the New Street Recreation Ground – she was for many years chair of the Recreation Committee. Current Town Councillor and colleague of Eve's, Steve Akers, proposed this 'in recognition of Eve's long years of service and many achievements as a Town and District Councillor, and the huge contribution she made to the life and politics of Chipping Norton'. A new bench will also be installed on the New Street verge between Diston's Lane and the Baptist Church (subject to Highways consent), in memory of former Mayor and Honorary Citizen John Grantham. This was proposed by former Mayor Mike Tysoe noting that John was born in Diston's Lane, his favourite road in Chippy, was very happy living latterly in a Penhurst flat and, as long-time organiser of local walks, would have appreciated a resting place for walkers struggling up the hill.



Young Leaders programme

Cottsway Housing are offering four free places for local young people (Cottsway customers) aged 14–21 on the inspirational Oxfordshire Youth Young Leaders Programme. The housing association is backed by the Travis Perkins Legacy Fund. Successful applicants will join 16 others from Oxfordshire developing new skills and improving their career prospects, while having fun. Taking part goes towards a Level 2 Award in Leadership and Team Skills – equivalent to a GCSE. Activities include problem solving, climbing or raft building while learning leadership skills. The next Young Leaders Programme starts in October and successful applicants will attend an induction evening, weekend residential course and a follow up study session in Oxford – a bursary of up to £75 will be available to help with travel costs. As part of the course, you will also lead an activity or take responsibility for something new in your community, school, college or youth group. Deadline for applications is Friday 9 September. For more information, and to apply, visit: cottsway.co.uk/youngleaders



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Chippy Library update

Well done to all young Chippy readers for taking part in the 2022 **Summer Reading Challenge**, Gadgeteers. Finish the challenge by 10 September to enter the prize draw and receive your medal and certificate! A new fun Saturday Storytime has started on the first Saturday each month at 11am – suitable for ages 3–6. No need to book, places allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Gadget and IT Support sessions with AgeUK will now be on Tuesdays from 2pm to 4pm. Whether you need help with your phone, laptop or tablet, AgeUK Oxfordshire and their volunteer team can help you develop your skills. For more information and to book your place contact AgeUK Oxfordshire on 01235 849434 or alternatively email network@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk. Last but not least, Chatterbox with AgeUK has returned! This social morning for all is on the third Tuesday every month from 10am to 11.30am. There will be a chance to meet your local AgeUK representative for information and advice...with coffee and lovely homemade cake too.

Sally Moore – Library Manager

**BACK
TO
WORK**

Summer over? Now it's 'back to work'

Back to work or back to school? The News Team's Jenny Stallard offers three key ways to help get your mind back on track!

From new uniforms and notebooks to timetables, 'back to school' vibes are in the air. It's the same with work. For many of us, returning to a 'day job' after a summer of different working hours or a relaxing holiday can mean it's harder to focus on work. Whether you have your own business or are returning to a full or part-time job after time off, the 'back to work' feelings are similar. Here are my three easy steps to embracing work again:

1 **Get with the 'new term' vibes** – it might seem simple but why not treat yourself to a new notepad and pens? It'll re-ignite those fun days when you used to fill a pencil case with new equipment, and proudly set off for a day of learning. Choose a notepad with a colour or design that fits with your work, for some 'fresh start' feelings and an impetus to get going.

2 **Make some new friends** – we encourage our kids to be sociable at school, but what about when it comes to our work? See if your work team would like to do something social. Or if you're self employed, find a networking event or look on social media in your area of interest, and perhaps join a niche Facebook group with some like-minded people.

3 **Make a list of 'rest of year goals'** – Goal setting is a fantastic and easy way to prioritise plans for your working year. Just as school timetables help students organise their weeks, you can do the same with work. What do you want to achieve by the end of the month or year? Is there a 'dealbreaker' goal such as a new client, or a promotion? Are they steps to work on?



Jenny Stallard is a Business/Career Coach and runs Freelance Feels, a platform for the self-employed and anyone thinking about going self-employed.

Theatre's free summer help

Thanks to financial support from Chipping Norton Town Council, The Theatre has been able to provide even more



great help for the community over this summer – particularly for those who are somewhat hard up with food, energy and other issues. The Theatre's Clare O'Hara, who leads their Take Part outreach work, told us the brilliant news that the Council's Community Committee had granted them £2500 specifically for families in need this summer. Clare said that with this and support from Wise Investments and Oxfordshire's Holiday Activities Fund, they organized:

- Weekly free lunch bags throughout the summer holiday
- Two double bills of free film screenings for local families
- Three weeks of free projects for 7–14 year olds entitled to free school meals (Play in a Week, Film in a Week and Backstage Pass)

All this supplements the usual open access programmes such as drama and musical workshops. Clare added 'We're looking very busy in Take Part so if you do come across anyone keen to volunteer, send them our way – we very much need food packing volunteers every Monday 10am–1.30pm!'



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Wednesday: 8.30am–7pm

Thursday: CLOSED

Friday: 8.30am–5.30pm

Saturday: 7.30am–1pm

Sunday: CLOSED

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Chipping Norton

The magic of the Stones

Numbers visiting our ancient Rollright Stones site have risen sharply post-pandemic – over 30,000 in the last year. It's a



The grass round the Stones has been parched by the heat

wonderful place for quiet contemplation, picnics, watching spectacular sunsets or stargazing (one of only two Cotswolds Dark Skies sites) and a regular observatory for Chipping Norton Amateur Astronomy Group (cnaag.com). Improved bat and bird boxes have also welcomed new inhabitants! Bank Holiday Monday 29 August saw a Family Open Day and on 3 September The Theatre takes over the site to perform *Arbor the Tree* – 'part man, part tree & 18 feet tall!' The audience follows Arbor striding around the ancient stones, vanishing between trees and emerging with his cart full of tree seeds. The audience get the chance to plant their own trees with Arbor giving everyone a gift to take home, leaving a legacy that will last for generations. Visit our website@rollrightstones.co.uk for more information.

Robin Smitten, Trustee & Site Manager

Cottsway grants for projects

Cottsway Housing Association has awarded another £13,000 in grants to eight local community projects. They include £1,750 to Thrive North Oxfordshire which provides practical assistance to children of struggling families around Chipping Norton. This can include purchasing household appliances and items needed for school. £1,450 went to Home Start which supports a vulnerable Cottsway family around Chipping Norton for one year and £2,400 to Witney and West Oxfordshire Foodbank for them to offer classes to help individuals how to cook, and on food hygiene, seasonal produce, and how to stretch budgets further. Cottsway Community Fund is a £30,000 scheme, running through the year, to support projects which benefit Cottsway's local communities. Cottsway customers can also apply for grant funding to support themselves, or an immediate family member, into employment or training. To find out more, see www.cottsway.co.uk/fund.

Farewell Old Friends



Beryl Morris

A Chippy lady from birth, Beryl passed peacefully away at Tall Trees Nursing home on 20 July 2022 aged 97 years. Now with her late husband Peter and son David. Beryl leaves behind daughters Ann and Sally, and their families.

Notice from Chris Parsons, A L Sole & Son

Final three apartments available at Willow Gardens

Our new Extra Care scheme in Chipping Norton offers a selection of two-bedroom apartments with access to modern communal areas, exclusively for over 55s*. Fancy a viewing? Arrange yours today and you could be living here this summer!

Why choose Willow Gardens...

- Ideal for those thinking about downsizing
- On-site café/bistro, hair salon and residents' lounge
- Optional 24/7 tailored care if and when you need it

Extra Care is for those aged over 65, however if you are aged between 55 and 64 and have a care need, you may also be eligible. **Eligibility criteria, monthly rent, core charges and service charges apply.

Arrange a viewing by calling **07595 055 542** or emailing **Jackie.Davies@housing21.org.uk**

Willow Gardens | Russell Way | Chipping Norton OX7 5FX

housing21.org.uk    

Housing 21
Extra Care Living



Guide price:
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apartment (25%
share)



Lawrence Home Nursing Team

Farewell to Team Chair, Tony Yarrow

At the recent AGM, Lawrence Home Nursing Team Chair Tony Yarrow retired and was replaced by Richard Greaves. We would like to thank Tony for all the hard work he has done for the charity especially steering it through a very difficult time during the pandemic. Tony is pictured being presented with gifts from the employees and trustees of LHNT by Nursing Manager, Jenny Nolan.



Fundraising Weekend: 2&4 September

There's a double-header of a weekend at Sandford St Martin Cricket Club to raise funds for the LHNT. **Race Night** at The SSMC Club House is on Friday 2 September and **The John Barrows Memorial Cricket Match** follows on Sunday, 4 September. Thank you to our event sponsor, R C Spencer Building Contractors. Tickets for the Race Night are £30 per head to include all entertainment and a curry supper catered by Curry Leaves. The limited over cricket match starts at 1pm (gates open midday). A £10 family ticket includes a complimentary tea/coffee, squash and cake. There's plenty to keep the whole family entertained including a kids' tombola,

ice cream van, face painting and a prize raffle. Email fundraiser@lawrencehomenursing.org or telephone 07990 882233 for Race Night tickets. Tables seat 2, 4 or 6 people.

Verity Fifer

Katharine House Hospice

Around 400 walkers took part in Katharine House's fabulous **Moonlight Walk** which was an 80s-themed extravaganza, raising over £45,000 at Easington Sports Football Club on 16 July, lit by moonlight and cheered on by the local Banbury community. It takes more than 100 volunteers to ensure the event runs smoothly. Volunteering has been proved to reduce



Rhona Maguire & family at the Moonlight Walk

stress, combat depression and improve physical health. New volunteers are always needed! Helen Lerwill, Events Project Manager for Katharine House said, 'We're still struggling to get our fundraising events and activities back to normal following two years of upheaval and it means so much that people are still choosing to raise money for the Hospice, helping to continue to care for people in their community.'

Make a Will Fortnight returns from 3 to 14 October. Six local solicitors have very generously agreed to waive their fee for writing or amending a basic will and are instead asking for donations to Katharine House. Check website for a list of participating solicitors and to find out how to make an appointment. The Hospice still has spaces on some of its brilliant challenge events: the **Oxford Half Marathon** 16 October – if you missed out on the ballot why not join Team Katharine House for the 13.1 mile run around Oxford. Choose either a 10km, half marathon or full marathon for your spooky sponsored night-time **Halloween Walk** on 29 October, around London. The Santa Fun Run is on Sunday 4 December at Spiceball Park. Find out more visit khh.org.uk for more details, events and news.

Home-Start



Home-Start is a community of trained volunteers and expert support who help families with young children through challenging times. This could include isolation, illness and disability, money

issues, separation and divorce. Would you like to become part of the Home-Start Banbury and Chipping Norton team of volunteers? Plans to begin the next Home-Visitor Volunteer Preparation course in September are under way and the team would love to hear from you, if you have parenting experience, 2-3 hours a week available to give support befriending a family with young children. Contact us at our website: home-startbanbury.org.uk/volunteering.

Keep doing
what you love at
Tall Trees
Care Home

Freephone

0808 223 5401

Online

caringhomes.org

Burford Road, Shipton-under-Wychwood,
Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire OX7 6DB



Tall Trees
CARING HOMES

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Chippy fire crew in action

Recent high temperatures demonstrated the extreme challenges that exist for all our local fire and rescue services. On 20 July Chippy crew dealt with a (suspected arson) barn fire in Chipping Norton, then on 1 August assisted colleagues at a large field fire near Paxford. Six fire engines were needed to deal with the incident. The cause is not yet known, but it had spread rapidly, involving approximately 35 acres of stubble, cut crop and hedgerows. Quick intervention saved a barn and stopped the fire from affecting a nearby railway. For more information on countryside fires, please visit 365alive.co.uk/cms/content/countryside-fires. Chippy's crew were out on Tuesday 2 August with a significant fire that destroyed a mobile home at The Beeches. The Woodstock crew helped, particularly as the fierce fire was threatening surrounding homes. Our firefighters ask everyone to avoid starting fires with bonfires, disposable barbeques and cigarette butts. For information about home safety, visit 365alive.co.uk/cms/content/home-safety

Inspection praise

Oxfordshire firefighters, including Chipping Norton's station crew, have received praise from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS), following a recent inspection. The Inspectorate awarded Oxfordshire three 'good' ratings in its effectiveness, efficiency, and people categories. Chief Fire Officer Rob MacDougall said, 'To gain three grades of good is a massive achievement, particularly with



the many challenges of COVID-19. I want to thank everyone from the firefighters on our stations, our officers and managers, our support staff and our control operators in the Thames Valley Fire Control Service. Without their fantastic levels of commitment and dedication, we would not be able to achieve what we do in protecting our community, reducing harm and saving lives.' Rob also mentioned the great contributions of partners in the 'blue light' services, including health trusts and volunteers.

Electric blanket safety checks

Chipping Norton residents are being encouraged to avoid fire risk spoiling a good night's sleep by booking a free electric blanket safety check with Oxfordshire's trading standards team. Tests, which OCC have run for over 20 years, must be pre-booked. Drop off for West Oxfordshire is on Thursday 22 September at Elmfield Council Offices, Witney OX28 1PB. Electric blankets can be collected from residents' homes if they are unable to travel. This will be done between 3 & 7 October. Failure rates are still over 20 per cent, with our Fire and Rescue Service called out to deal with fires. Email duty.officer@oxfordshire.gov.uk or call 01865 895999 (option 3) to book a test.

Open Day success

Chippy's fire crew held a great Open Day on 16 July up at the station with visitors at a variety of stalls, including a raffle, games, firefighter outfits to try on and the all-important food stall!



They also had a set of stocks which a child could either put a parent or a firefighter into and throw wet sponges at them! One Councillor donated £20 to put Watch Manager, David Cuthbert in the stocks – nine sponges did not miss! The crew made a mock-up of a house that children could aim water at, using the hose reel from one of the fire engines. There were ladder demonstrations and a simulated car



collision demonstration, where the crew remove part of a car using specialist tools and techniques to gain access to a casualty. This was supported by the Rescue Tender crew from Kidlington. £583.60 was raised on the day to be split between the Firefighters Charity and Chippy Larder. Thanks to all the crew for their hard work, families who made cakes and local businesses who donated prizes.

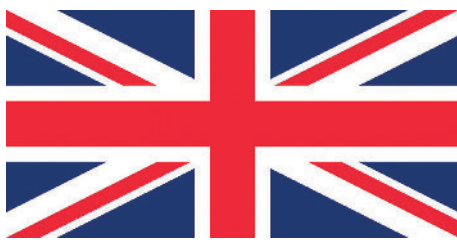
Charlie and Toby Hornsby enjoyed their day with Chippy Fire Crew

If you are interested in joining Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service as an on-call firefighter, including at Chipping Norton, visit oxfordshire.gov.uk/oncallfirefighters or email fire.recruitment@oxfordshire.gov.uk

FLYING THE FLAG

Chipping Norton Town Council have erected a new ‘stand alone’ flagpole in the Millennium Garden along West Street. Easy access provides the chance to display the Union Flag, and other flags to mark particular important occasions. Here’s what’s happening:

Union Flag – The de facto UK national flag – although there’s no law making it official! It has become such through precedent. The design dates from a Royal proclamation following the 1801 union of Great Britain and Ireland. The flag combines the red cross of St George for England, white saltire of St Andrew for Scotland and red saltire of St Patrick for Ireland. Of course it’s just Northern Ireland now. Wales loses out, but the Welsh Dragon appears in the English royal coat of arms.



Flying the Union Flag

National rules say the Union Flag can be flown anytime but MUST be flown on Government buildings on certain designated dates. These include: the birthdays of The Queen and Prince of Wales, Her Majesty’s official birthday, date of Accession and Coronation, Remembrance Day, St George’s Day for England, plus the opening and prorogation of Parliament. The Town Council will be finalising a version of this guidance, adding Armistice Day (11 November).

Other flags on the Council’s calendar

The Town Council’s protocol, agreed in July, includes other dates for flying specific different flags associated with other important occasions. They’ve so far agreed the following and will purchase flags for: Commonwealth Day; Earth Day; Pride (the Rainbow Flag); Armed Forces Day; NHS Birthday; International Women’s Day and Refugees.



The NHS Flag – On 5 July the Town Council marked the 74th birthday of the NHS, with ‘gratitude to all health and social workers for hard work and sacrifices through COVID-19 and beyond’. Special thanks to Chipping Norton Health Centre, with GPs Dr Sandar Hlaing & Dr Wendy Hall, Care Navigation Team Leader Lisa Mayne and Business Manager Phil Lacey pictured raising the flag with Mayor Sandra Coleman and Cllr Steve Akers.



Commonwealth Flag – The official flag representing the Commonwealth of Nations was designed in 1973 at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Canada. A globe is surrounded by 64 radiating sunrays, forming a ‘C’ for Commonwealth (unrelated to the number of nations). In 2013, the globe was tilted, and sunrays reduced to 34!



Earth Day – The official version is the Earthday or ECOLOGY Flag created by artist Ron Cobb in 1969 as part of the ‘60s environmental movement – supposedly created from letters e and o, meaning environment and organism. With echoes of the Stars and Stripes, the green, for pure air and green land; was substituted for that flag’s blue and red.



Armed Forces Day – The 23 June Day next year will use a flag with Union Flag parts showing ‘support’. The Day is a chance to show support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community: from currently serving troops to Service families, veterans and cadets.



Rainbow Flag – Known as the Gay Pride flag or LGBT pride flag it reflects the diversity of the LGBT community and the spectrum of human sexuality and gender. Originally devised by artist Gilbert Baker and other activists around 1978, it originally had eight colours but most now use only six.



Refugee Flag – A refugee nation flag was designed and made by Yara Said, an artist and Syrian refugee – inspired by the orange and black of the life vest that she wore when she fled her country in search of a safe haven. It was first used at the Rio Olympics in 2016.



Suffrage Flag – For International Women’s Day, some choices here. Perhaps this UK, green, white and purple Suffrage Flag showing the colours of the militant Women’s Social and Political Union, led by Emmeline Pankhurst. Or perhaps use a flag of the more moderate National Union of Women’s Suffrage Societies – often green, gold and white.

Requests from the local community – The Council will consider special requests to fly other flags to mark local or national commemorations or campaigns but can refuse political or other flags that risk bringing the Council into disrepute or losing political neutrality. Contact Luci Ashbourne via townclerk@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk for more information.

Chipping Norton's Community Hospital

A 'thank you' to the League of Friends

Tributes to years of support – Back in 1948, the NHS took over Chipping Norton's old 1920s War Memorial Hospital at Spring Street. For years, the community rallied round with both financial and volunteer support through an enthusiastic League of Friends. Over time, significant funds were raised. When the new facility was opened in 2011 up the London Road, the remaining Friends' funds continued to provide valuable support. In August, the Hospital paid tribute with a display board showing past gifts and gave an update for the News.

A thriving community health hub



Chipping Norton's War Memorial Community Hospital is run by Oxford Health NHS Trust who provide community and mental health services across several counties. Clinic Nurse Fran Boone told us about its role in Chippy, mainly running specialist outpatient services and clinics avoiding local patients travelling to Oxford and Banbury. Key community health professionals are based here with specialist clinicians coming from our main hospitals to see patients. The Hospital also houses the midwife-led Cotswold Birth Centre run by Oxford University Hospitals Trust (OUH), and a base for the Lawrence Home Nursing Team, the local charity providing end-of-life palliative home care. The NHS's local district nursing team, based on site and as busy as ever, provides community-wide support for people returning home from hospital or preventing hospital admissions.

Vital help from League of Friends

When the old hospital had inpatient beds, the League provided Christmas gifts for patients, and has continued with Christmas trees. Donating important equipment has helped make sure that many patient needs can be met here in Chippy, avoiding a trip to Oxford or Banbury. Clinic Nurse Fran Boone and Receptionist Sarah Harvey are pictured showing the News Team the Diagnostic Ultra-sound unit supported by the Friends, and Fran listed other important equipment bought with financial help: an ENT scope, mobile examination light, spirometry equipment, variable height trolley, and hand-held machines for clinical observations. Items have also gone to the Maternity unit. Fran said 'We have just wanted to say how grateful we are to the League of Friends for their time and effort in funding equipment over the years for the Hospital. They have at heart always wanted to help keep services for Chipping Norton and surrounding villages. A massive thank you'.



Hospital Outpatients Reception 01865 903333; Cotswold Birth Centre 01608 697930. The League of Friends is currently not fundraising but is keen, with its remaining funds and reserves, to support NHS services in Chipping Norton and surrounding district. For information, contact Chair Jo Graves at 01608 643976 or jograves46@aol.com

Specialist clinics – 'Ask for Chippy!'

Currently over 25 specialist outpatient clinics are run at the Hospital allowing patients to be seen much nearer to home – parking is free as well. There are consultant-led and nurse-led clinics for adults and children, with specialists coming both from Oxford Health and OUH alongside the local team. Oxford Health's local podiatry, occupational therapy and physiotherapy sessions which are run here help prevent more serious issues and empower people to live life independently to the best of their ability. X-ray equipment on site is bookable by referral from GPs and other clinicians. Sarah Barton, the Hospital's Clinic Clerk, provided the latest list of clinics and services. She urges News readers, when talking to their doctors about appointments or using 'Choose and Book', to ask 'Can I have it in Chipping Norton?'

Clinics & sessions currently run in Chippy

AAA Screening	Paediatrics
Audiological Science	Paediatric Audiology
Audiology	Paediatric Bladder & Bowel
Bladder & Bowel (Adult)	Paediatric Orthopaedics
Clinical Genetics	Paediatric Urology
Community Paediatrics	Physio (Jenny Page)
Gastroenterology	Podiatry
Gerontology	Respiratory Physio
Gynaecology	Rheumatology
Heart Failure Nurse	Speech and Language (Adult & Paediatric)
Memory	Ultrasound
Neurology	X-Ray (By appointment)
Orthopaedics	

A team proud to work for patients



Fran Boone, as a clinic nurse, sees first-hand how patients are welcomed and treated. Clinics aim to provide an experience that can empower patients by feeling that they are seen, heard, listened to and able to express safely what they are going through. She said Reception, backed by Administration and supportive managers, are fantastic to work along side, striving to make a difference for those visiting the Hospital with advice, and smiles when things may be hard. Not least, she mentioned the amazing cleaning team – even more essential through Covid. She ended, 'We are very proud to work at Chipping Norton, value our work and thank the League of Friends for the support that they have given over the years'.

Latest updates from the NHS



NHS services very stretched – Nationally, all NHS services remain stretched, with demand backlogs, Covid and big staffing issues. Oxfordshire is no exception with Urgent and Emergency Care having a critical incident declared, and with waiting issues over the summer made worse by delays in the whole ‘flow’ from ambulances into the hospital itself and then in getting patients released from hospital because of limited access to adequate care support at home. Please use NHS 111 if you can (not A&E for non-emergencies); our Oxfordshire NHS Trusts are trying to reduce pressure on the system with more ‘Hospital at Home’ assessments.

GP access still challenging – The latest national GP Survey of over 700,000 patients, carried out early in 2022 and published in the summer, showed the extent of issues in GP practices right across England, including Covid, backlogs, and delayed hospital treatments. In 2022, the ‘overall good’ rating for GP practices was down to 75% for our whole region (Bucks, Oxon, Berks), with Chipping Norton Health Centre scoring 60%. Only 56% for the region were satisfied with GP appointment times available (CNHC 37%) and only 56% found it easy to get through to the GP practice by phone (CNHC 40%).

Covid update and vaccinations – Covid rates rose again rapidly in June and July, recording nearly 200 patients with Covid in



Oxfordshire’s four main hospital sites. Vaccinations are still fully available: 95% of our over 50s have had at least one booster, 82% of over 75s have had the second Spring booster. The Government has announced further Covid booster jabs for over 50s starting from September using GP surgeries and pharmacies. At the time of writing, no-one could say if they might or might not be co-ordinated alongside flu jabs.

Flu vaccination programme 2022/23 – Chipping Norton

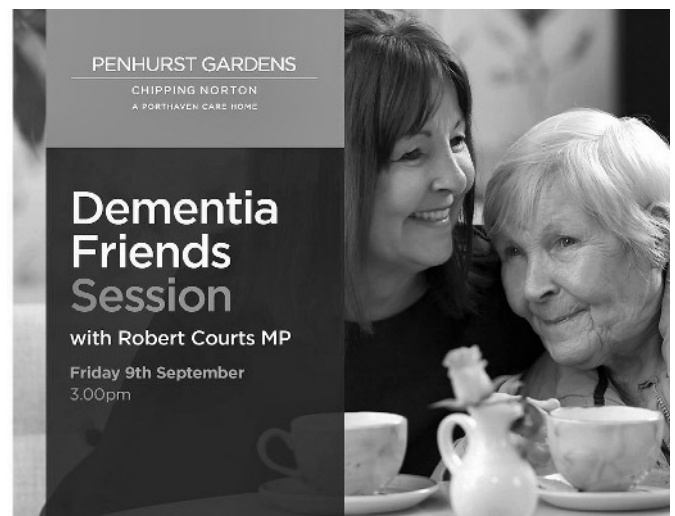


Health Centre will run weekday and weekend flu vaccination clinics this year. Dates and bookings (two weeks beforehand) await firm plans for actually receiving vaccine deliveries – to avoid having

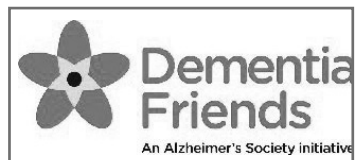
to reschedule. CNHC hope to have a text message booking system (similar to Covid) in by the end of September – to cut down on telephone traffic to the Health Centre. See the CNHC website and complete a ‘change personal details’ form if you think they don’t have your mobile phone number. For flu jabs, those clinically eligible will be invited first, then those aged 50–64 years old with no underlying clinical issues. See CNHC website for 2022/23 eligibility criteria. Other Chippy Pharmacies including Topside Pharmacy and Boots on the High Street will be doing Flu Jabs as well. Contact them directly.

NHS using your information – From 1 August, all our NHS organisations must have a system in place that allows you to choose to ‘opt out’ if you want to restrict having your data used for helping with both NHS planning and research nationally. Our Chipping Norton Health Centre will continue to take part in primary care research. If they wish to ‘opt out’ of allowing this, patients need to register their choice directly online nationally. There is a form to do this on the CNHC website (please do not hand forms into Reception). Please visit chippingnortonhealthcentre.nhs.uk/national-data-opt-out-31st-july-2022/ to find out details.

MP at Dementia Friends talk



Penhurst Gardens Care Home, down New Street, is hosting a discussion with Dementia Friends Champion Robert Courts MP on Friday 9 September at 3pm. The friendly and worthwhile one-hour session is free, with refreshments provided in the spacious Summerhouse. The **Dementia Friends** programme (See www.dementiafriends.org.uk) linked to the Alzheimer’s Society, is the biggest ever initiative to change people’s perceptions of dementia – transforming the way the nation thinks, acts and talks about the condition. At the session, you’ll learn more about dementia, how it affects a person and how you can help people affected by dementia in your community. These actions don’t have to be time-consuming. From visiting someone you know with dementia, to being more patient in a shopping queue, every action counts! Too many people affected by dementia feel that society fails to understand the condition they live with. Dementia Friends help by raising awareness and understanding, so people living with dementia can continue to live the way they want.



For more information or to attend, contact Deeon Pegg on 01608 698100 or email deeon.pegg@porthaven.co.uk

Other local support includes **Dementia Oxfordshire**, a partnership between Age UK Oxfordshire and Dementia UK. See dementiaoxfordshire.org.uk or call 01865 410210. Deeon at Penhurst Gardens also runs a Friendship memory café group every last Wednesday of the month from 2pm until 4pm. Contact Deeon at Penhurst directly.

Johanne's care award



Jo Tustin with OSJCT CEO Dan Hayes at the Awards ceremony

Care Assistant Johanne Tustin at Chipping Norton's Henry Cornish Care Centre was awarded a prestigious Covid-19 Campaign Medal from the British Association of The Order of Malta (BASMOM) in recognition of her exceptional service to the field of social care. The Order of Malta is a sponsoring order of The Orders of St John Care Trust (OSJCT) which runs care homes and accommodation across England including Oxfordshire. Johanne, who has worked for OSJCT for six years, said, 'I was very honoured to receive the medal and I feel privileged to have my care role which gives me the opportunity to care for our lovely residents. The ceremony was extraordinary, they were very welcoming and made me feel very proud to be part of OSJCT. This wouldn't be possible without the help and support of my colleagues and Manager at Henry Cornish. My family attended and were finally able to understand the impact our job has on others'. This year saw 51 OSJCT employees and volunteers awarded medals by BASMOM at a special ceremony at The Brompton Oratory, London, on 24 June, St John's Day.

Southerndown update

August saw some entertaining visitors come to Chipping Norton's Southerndown Care Home. Stacey Davies from the Activities Team sent news of an amazing visit from Simon Watts, who presented a wildlife film he'd made about a skulk of foxes living at an allotment in Coventry. Stacey said, 'We found the film absolutely fascinating. With most of us being born and growing up in Chipping Norton, we have all seen our fair share of foxes; however, Simon taught us things that we had no idea about – you really do learn something new every day. We can't wait for Simon to visit us again soon with his next amazing film'.



Then later in August there was a special visit from a professional violinist and pianist (pictured above). The wonderfully talented duo treated residents and staff to some beautiful classical music from around the globe. It was such a relaxing and enjoyable afternoon with some fond favourites. Everyone is excited about the next visit.

News from Beech Haven

As part of Care Home Open Week bringing care homes across the country together with their local community, Beech Haven in Chipping Norton got fully on-board liaising with residents regarding what they would most like to experience. As part of their wishes, Beech Haven had an English bulldog and a pony from a local stable visit the Home for all the residents to see and enjoy. There was a range of activities throughout the week, both for staff and residents, and residents relished their favourite treats and snacks – liquorice allsorts, wine gums and of course everyone's firm favourite: chocolate!



To round off the week, Beech Haven teamed up with local chip shop, the Arctic Fish Bar, to provide all residents with fish and chips which they loved eating out of the paper and all washed down with a glass of bubbly! There was a wonderful buzz around the Home all week, with some genuine and emotional moments shared and lasting memories made! Beech Haven look forward to being a continued and firm part of community life in Chipping Norton and to more joint enterprises and involvement with local companies!

Lisa Tanner

Menopause Wellness Day

'Is It Just Me?' On Friday 9 September, Nicky Hall of FitActive Personal Training will be running a Menopause Wellness Day at Berrybank Park Amphitheatre which is between Chipping Norton and Stow-on-the-Wold, starting at 9.30am with a 4pm finish.



Having encountered the trials of mid-life herself, Nicky specialises in health and fitness for peri-menopause and menopause. The Wellness Day will empower women who may feel adrift in the sea of uncertainty, myth and taboo surrounding their mid-life health. A team of practitioners will share their experiences from working with female clients. The event will include: talks with two HRT-specialist GPs; pelvic floor rehab to free women from worry and to return their self-confidence; movement and exercise tailored for mid-life women; stress-management techniques to calm and clear the menopausal mind; delicious and satisfying nutritional ideas; lunch by Chloe Horner plus refreshments. The day costs £175 including lunch and refreshments in the Amphitheatre grounds. Bookings: ticketsource.co.uk/fitactive-personal-training (booking fee applies). More at fitactive.co.uk/is-it-just-me-menopause-wellness-programme.

THE ARTS

The Theatre

Live shows

Arbor the Tree Saturday 3 September, 1.30pm & 3.30pm at the Rollright Stones. Part Man, part tree and 18 feet tall, Arbor strides around the ancient stones telling the story of a tree pushed from his home and his fight to preserve his future. £10, £7.50 under 16s.

Here Come the Girls Friday 9 September, 7.30pm. Eleven tribute acts celebrating some of the finest female artists of all time: Cher, Madonna, Lady Gaga, Shania Twain, Annie Lennox, Gloria Estefan, Blondie, Katy Perry, Adele, Abba and Bananarama. £19.50.

Hot Fingers Thursday 15 September, 7.30pm. Hot jazz, blues, popular songs, novelty numbers and more, all from the 1920s and 30s. Proceeds go to the people of Ukraine. £15.

Tom Allen: Work in Progress Friday 16 September. SOLD OUT.

We're Going on a Bear Hunt 21–24 September, various



times. Age: 2+. Little Angel Theatre returns with the much-loved children's book in which a family go on the expedition of a lifetime – running down the grassy bank, wading through the river, squelching over the mud, stumbling into the forest and peering into a cave... £13, £11 under 16s.

Suzi Ruffell: Snappy Thursday 29 September, 7.30pm. Age: 14+. Comedian Suzi Ruffell's new show is all about settling down (but not settling), becoming a mother (without becoming mumsy) and still worrying about everything. £16.50.

The Thinking Drinkers Pub Quiz Friday 30 September, 7.30pm. Age: 18+. Two of the world's leading alcohol experts return with a hilarious quiz show that gets the rounds in – in more ways than one. £18.

Pete Firman: Bag of Tricks Saturday 1 October, 7.30pm. Age: 14+. One of the UK's most popular magicians is back on the road! You've seen him on television, now experience his

trademark blend of laugh-out-loud comedy and jaw-dropping magic live on stage. £17.50.

Panto Have you booked yet? This year's panto is **Dick Whittington** and runs from 16 November until 15 January. It's the best panto in the land – oh yes, it is! Book early to get the best seats in the house.

Further details of all the above: chippingnortontheatre.com or 01608 642350.

Panto Fun Run Sunday 25 September. Round 2 of The Theatre's fundraiser sets off from The Theatre at 10am; arrive any time after 9.15am wearing your favourite costume or your newly ironed lycra. The Fun Run is approximately 5k across fields and public footpaths, avoiding roads whenever possible. Any road crossing will be marshalled. The finishing line is at the Worcester Road Recreation Ground where there will be refreshments and entertainment. No need to have run/walked the route to join in the fun. Support by sponsorship or a donation is most welcome. The Panto Fun Run is sponsored by Owen Mumford. Further details at chippingnortontheatre.com.



Further details at chippingnortontheatre.com.

ChipLitFest Autumn Event at The Theatre Prue Leith, restaurateur, chef, novelist, *Bake Off* judge, and ChipLitFest patron giving an exclusive Chippy preview of her latest book, *Bliss on Toast*. Dame Prue will talk about her extraordinary life and career. There will be a chance to ask her about her many interests and experiences, ranging from hospital food, to adoption, the right to die, and love in old age. Wednesday 5 October, 7.30pm. £15. Details: chippingnortontheatre.com or 01608 642350.

Music & Concerts



The Fosseway Chamber Orchestra, a u3a group, welcomes all players every Tuesday morning during school term time, in Stretton-on-Fosse. Details: Christine on 07967 423550.

Burford Singers celebrate the music of John Rutter, Sunday 27 November, 7.30pm, Burford Parish Church. Conductor Brian Kay with the Cotswold Chamber Orchestra and mezzo soprano Melanie Marshall. 8–16 September: postal booking; from 25 September online booking (www.burfordingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/) and unreserved seating booking in person (Madhatter Bookshop, Burford) and on the door. Details: www.burfordingers.org.uk/events/

Kingham Singers begin autumn rehearsals on Monday 12 September, 7.30–9pm at the Methodist Chapel, Churchill. All singers welcome. Details: Linda Sale on 01608 658647.

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**World According to
Kaleb Cooper**

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1 Middle Row, Chipping Norton
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THE ARTS

The Cotswold Stage School begins an exciting new academic year in September, offering singing, drama and dance sessions on Saturday afternoons in Chipping Norton. A West End musical theatre performer has been booked to give a workshop to all the students. Free taster sessions on Saturdays 17 & 24 September & 1 October. Book a place via info@cotswoldstageschool.com or 07721 869361.

Chipping Norton Music Festival 10–25 March 2023. Syllabuses are available from November with entries opening online at www.cnmf.org.uk from the beginning of December.

Art, lectures and literature



The Arts Society Cotswolds Wednesday 14 September, 11am at Warwick Hall, Burford or via Zoom. *William Morris and the Cotswolds* with Juliet Heslewood. Further information will be circulated via the newsletter and bookings can be made by via their website theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk. Visitors are welcome, space permitting, for a suggested donation of £10.

Dar-le and The Bear, Woodstock *Colours Of A Day* by Oxfordshire artist Alison Berrett. 17 September–4 October. Exhibition Event: Friday 23 September 5–8pm. Opening times at darleandthebear.co.uk. Using landscape and seascape as starting points, Alison works en plein air on sheets of loose paper, using pastels and gestural marks intuitively so as to capture movement and colour simultaneously. In her studio, she works in oils, acrylics and pastels on larger canvases or paper and uses elements from the whole body of drawings made outside as starting points.

Zuleika Gallery Stables Café at Blenheim Palace *Vibrant Journeys in Paint*, an exhibition that brings together two contemporary artists, Arabella Ross and Carrie Stanley. Continues until January 2022. In the newly refurbished Blenheim Palace Exhibition Suite.

Paul Maze and Winston Churchill: Companions of the Brush. A showcase of Winston Churchill's love of painting and lifelong friendship with renowned Anglo-French artist Paul Maze, the official painter of the Queen's Coronation in 1953. Continues until 13 November. zuleikagallery.com/exhibitions



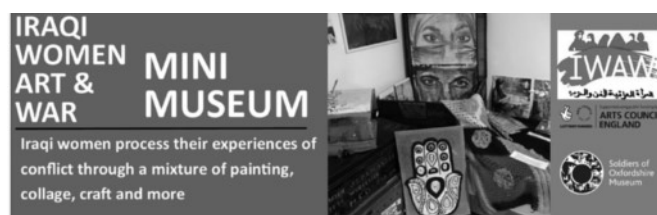
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2b Marston House, Cromwell Business Park
Chipping Norton, Oxon OX7 5SR
tel. 01608 642570 email. advice@astral-lbh.co.uk
www.astral-lbh.co.uk

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 Member of the ACCA Advising clients in Chipping Norton for 30 years

Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock until 11 September: *Fear No Colours* by Marion Bond. Colourful landscapes depicting the Cotswolds and beyond. Acrylic paintings, giclée prints, digital photography and greeting cards.



Until 24 November: *Iraqi Women Art and War*: Iraqi women process their experiences of conflict through of painting, collage craft and more and *Children and Military Lives*: stories of adventure, families and exile. Opening times: Tuesday–Saturday 11am–5pm & Sundays 2pm–5pm. sofo.org.uk

Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock Ongoing till 9 October, Tuesday–Saturday 10am–5pm, Sunday 2pm–5pm. *Juxtaposition*. Modern crafts meet their historic counterparts. Examples of the superb craftsmanship and artistry of contemporary crafts is juxtaposed with similar historic items. oxfordshire.gov.uk/oxfordshire-museum

Local Author M S Clary's latest publication *Three Albert Terrace* is a domestic noir story that unfolds like a psychological thriller. Uniquely set in an estate agency, with touches of humour and witty dialogue, it reveals surprising plot twists and character moments through day-to-day encounters with clients. A murder (then another), a love affair (then another), lies, deception, (viewings) and Mme Bovary. Available from Jaffé & Neale and other good bookshops. Details: msclary.co.uk

What's On

**THE THEATRE
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<p>LIVE @ THE THEATRE</p> <p>3rd Sept, 1.30pm & 3.30pm 9th Sept, 7.30pm 15th Sept, 7.30pm 25th Sept, 10am 29th Sept 7.30pm 30th Sept, 7.30pm 1st Oct, 7.30pm 5th Oct, 7.30pm</p> <p>FILMS</p> <p>5th Sept, 10.30am 10th Sept, 10.30am 10th-13th Sept, 7.30pm 15th Sept, 10.30am 22nd Sept, 10.30am 23rd-28th Sept, various times 26th Sept, 10.30am 29th Sept, 10.30am 2nd Oct, 4pm & 7.30pm</p> <p>SCREENINGS</p> <p>Thu 8th Sept, 7pm Tues 27th Sept, 7.15pm Thu 6th Oct, 7pm</p> <p>CHILDREN AND FAMILIES</p> <p>21st-24th Sept, various times 2nd Oct, 11am & 2pm</p>	<p>ARBOR THE TREE @ ROLLRIGHT STONES—£10, £7.50 u16s HERE COME THE GIRLS—£19.50 HOT FINGERS COGNERT FOR UKRAINE—£15 PANTO FUN RUN 2022 SUZI RUFFELL: SNAPPY—£16.50 THE THINKING DRINKERS PUB QUIZ—£18—18+ PETE FIRMAN: BAG OF TRICKS—£17.50, £14 concs CHIPLIFFEST: AN EVENING WITH PRUE LEITH—£15</p> <p>TICKETS £10, £7.50 UNDER 16S</p> <p>RELAXED SCREENING: THE RAILWAY CHILDREN RETURN (PG) DC LEAGUE OF SUPER PETS (PG) - £5 Family Film WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING (12A) CINEMA BAMBINO: WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING (12A) BLIND AMBITION (PG) - Friends 2 for 1/half price FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS: ONE AND ALL (12A) RELAXED SCREENING: FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS (12A) CINEMA BAMBINO: FISHERMAN'S FIRNEDS (12A) IT SNOWS IN BENIDORM (15)</p> <p>TICKETS £17.50</p> <p>MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (12A) MADAMA BUTTERFLY (12A) JACK ABSOLUTE FLIES AGAIN (12A) - £17.50/£12.50 concs</p> <p>COMING SOON</p> <p>CHIPPING NORTON 2022/23 PANTO DICK WHITTINGTON 16TH NOVEMBER - 15TH JANAUARY</p>
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SPORTS NEWS

A boost to our Sporting Legacy?

Like millions across the country, *Chippy News* Sports Editor Graham Beacham cheered on the amazing footballing Lionesses (pictured), and then watched the joyous



Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. Graham remembers the 'Legacy' promised from the 2012 London Olympics and has kept up his efforts to champion Chippy sport – including with the Olympic Legacy Awards at the Town Sports Awards. The Pandemic didn't help – although many of us did get out and exercise! But with this summer's sporting boosts, Graham says, 'It would be nice to think female interest in football and other sports is growing and we can also bring wider diversity in sport.' He would love anyone in Chippy wanting to take up sport to not be held back – as ever, we need enthusiastic volunteer coaches and team organisers – and more players to sign up to fill the teams. Let's polish that Legacy. If you have ideas, or want to publicise your sports and teams – tell the News and contact Graham at beacham369@btinternet.com

Chipping Norton Cricket Club

Youth Cricket The weather has been terrific this season with no Friday training cancellations for the first time in over five years. The training season has now ended with only the 100 Ball Competitions now taking place. This new venture by the Counties is proving difficult to manage with many people on holiday! The U13s are the only team to have won a game so far when they beat Gt Rissington. Youth Presentation Night is at 6pm on Friday 9 September with trophy presentation, BBQ, bar and a raffle. We are already thinking about next season when we will need more youth Coaches, Assistants,

Umpires and Scorers. There are courses online. Please email Youth Coordinator Sue Powell (bloxhamsue@aol.com) if you are interested.

Seniors At time of writing, four games each are left for our league teams with exciting finishes in prospect.. Sadly, the 1st XI have just fallen into the relegation zone in a very tight Division. The 2nd XI, however are chasing another promotion. Recent individual performances: Bowling (5 wickets or more),



Nathan after a 5 wicket innings (pic Paul)

Nathan 5-25, Darren 5-34 & 5-49, Zain 5-45. Batting (50 or more runs), Jahangir 103 & 60, Jake 102, Imran 90 & 67 not out, Banaras 84, Riasat 66 not out and 65, Ali 53, Michael 51. The Club hopes to hold its Awards Evening in October.

Graham Beacham

Chipping Norton Rugby Club



The new season starts on Sunday 4 September! We would love to welcome new players across all our age groups, from Under 6 to Senior;

just come along on the 4th at 10am to find out more. Our senior 1st XV squad has been training all summer and are ready to renew their campaign in the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Premiership and, if we can avoid the early season injuries of 2021, should be in contention for the top. We are delighted to welcome a new main shirt sponsor (pictured above) to the Mini and Junior sections. Witney based Mouthguardsdirect are a local company with existing club connections, so we are

From Lifeguard to Leisure Centre Manager

Our Leisure Centre's new manager Lewis Brain grew up in Chipping Norton – and started as customer then lifeguard. He's also now in charge of Woodstock Open Air Pool. He's delighted with the job and told the News how and why!

'I grew up in Chippy and attended both primary and secondary school here. The Leisure Centre has always been a big part of the community and I can remember the excitement when it first opened back in 2002. As a local, I've always been interested in what's on offer – particularly as a customer for years – before I started my career with Better. I used the Centre for holiday clubs when I was younger, swimming with family and friends, as a gym member – and more. My journey with Better started eight years ago as a Chipping Norton lifeguard, working my way up to become a Duty Manager. My



hard work paid off and a rewarding career path working in leisure began to unfold. As you know, 2020 was a hard year for us all but I was given the opportunity to become acting Centre Manager throughout Lockdown and helped bring it through to re-opening. A lot of effort was focused on community support such as with The Chippy Larder which cemented our partnership with the local community. This, alongside my passion for sport and exercise, means that there's nothing more rewarding than the privilege of managing the business and providing this service to my own local community.'

Lewis would love you to visit him and his team at the Centre and help you in any way they can. Contact Lewis.Brain@GLL.ORG

SPORTS NEWS

delighted to see them increase their community youth rugby support. An exciting season of events is planned, and don't forget you can hire the Clubhouse for your own event. Email chippingnortonrugby@gmail.com, check our website, or follow on facebook, Instagram, twitter and linkedin for more.
Graeme Williamson

Sun shines on the Hooky 6



Photo: Barry Cornelius

The first Sunday in August saw the Hooky 6 – and the sun truly shone down on it! The beautiful day saw nearly 200 runners gather to run six miles round Hook Norton, in this annual race organised by Hook Norton Harriers. James Bolton of Woodstock Harriers (pictured left) was first male runner and overall winner with a chip time of 31:55;

Claire True of Alchester Running Club was first female, finishing in 39:58.



Thanks to our race team (pictured above) for organising what is always a well-reviewed local race, and to our other members not only for taking on marshalling duties but also for baking the cakes our races have become known for!

Nell Darby

Chippy Swifts

Swifts returned to training in mid-August in blistering heat, for the new season beginning early September (probably in heavy rain!). The Club has grown yet again – this season fielding nine mixed teams and two girls teams, providing football opportunities for 160 children. Our new coaches have passed their FA qualifications and are itching to get going. Our growth could not happen without the valuable support of local sponsors: this year we thank and welcome on board TSG Energy (U7 shirts), Chipping Norton Event Hire (U7 jackets), Topside Pharmacy (U11 girls shirts), Chipping Norton Garden Company (U12 girls shirts), Felix Flooring (U12 shirts and

jackets), Donaldson Timber Systems (U14B shirts and jackets) and MKT Computers (U15 jackets). Come on you Swifts!
Martyn Walsh

Chippy Hockey Team



Whether or not you're feeling inspired by the women's (gold) or men's (bronze) hockey teams in the Commonwealth Games, Chippy Hockey Team invites you to come along and play! Sunday mornings 10-11am at the Leisure Centre. Games are fun, self umpired with all abilities and ages welcome. They're what sport is about – getting involved, having a go and having a good time. Whether you play every week, haven't played in years or have never touched a hockey stick, you're welcome to get stuck in. The sessions are an opportunity to learn and develop, but most importantly have a friendly and enjoyable game. No weekly commitment – just turn up and play! Contact Sharon Truelove sjtruelove@hotmail.co.uk 01608 730546 / 07722 603207 for further information.

Luke Briggs

Vintage Sports-Car Club



In August the VSCC enjoyed a fantastic weekend at the Prescott Speed Hill Climb. Based in Cheltenham, just a short journey from the Club's HQ in Chipping Norton, this is perhaps the Club's most anticipated event of the year. Run annually since 1937, with only war and Covid disrupting the tradition, it once again proved the crown jewel in our events calendar. The weather was phenomenal as was the paddock atmosphere, particularly when the noisy Edwardian-era engines came to life. Some highlights included seeing new and old friends; the return of overseas members; the many younger members competing and the fierce competition which saw several Club records broken. There is a live stream on YouTube with HillClimb.TV. If you enjoy what you see come and join us next month to tackle the Prescott Hill Climb Long Course. Further details on events and membership at www.vsccl.co.uk.

Shannon Hunt

Hook Norton Tennis Club

Diary Date: Saturday 17 September Fun Tennis Tournament. Three teams are competing in the Banbury Summer League. As I write this, all teams lie third in their respective divisions: the A team in Division 1; B Division 2 and C Division 4. All ladder matches are under way. Members can book courts via clubspark.lta.org.uk/HookNortonTennisClub which also lists Club sessions. Coaching is available from: Marc Gilkes: 07930 406015 (coaching dates 5 Sept–22 Oct). Contact Faith Heron: 07771 904905 or Steve Bone: 07850 036656 for their coaching dates. New members welcome, contact membership secretary Kate via khs.shoes@gmail.com or 01608 642774

Elaine Priestley

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CLUB NEWS

Chippy Amnesty marks Refugee Week

Following on from Amnesty's new campaign to fight homelessness in England, Chippy Amnesty celebrated Refugee Week with a fascinating talk by Kate Clanchy, a poet and teacher who has worked extensively



Kate Clanchy talks to Chippy Amnesty

with the children of refugees, asylum seekers and economic migrants. Kate introduced us to various children she has worked with recently, and shared some of their moving and thought-provoking poems. Here is one, written by Mohamed Assaf, age 12, from Syria:

*I Have Divided My Heart
And half of it is still in Syria.
When the sun shines in Syria
the warmth flowers in my cheek.
And when the sun sets there
my heart remembers shadows
and the closing of flowers.*

Kate's stories of the refugee children and their beautiful poems was a heartfelt reminder not only of the healing power of creativity and community, but also of the wonderful contributions that refugees make to our society and the resilience of the human spirit. More widely, Chippy Amnesty continues to work on behalf of individual prisoners of conscience across the world, and has also turned attention to the role businesses play in human rights abuses...watch this space! Look out for us in town at our street collection on 3 September (9am-1pm) and our next meeting takes place at 7.30pm, Thursday 8 September, Lower Town Hall. All are warmly welcome! Enquiries to Val on 01608 645036.

Penny James

Summer walks with Chippy Ramblers

A slightly overcast July afternoon with a cheeky breeze made ideal conditions for a walk from the Long Compton mast all the way down to the village with stunning views of the Warwickshire Vale. An extra wide field margin provided an array of wonderful wild flowers: marbled white butterflies sat atop pyramidal orchids and electric blue damsel flies joined other pollinating insects enjoying the feast. What comes down must go up, so a climb back was inevitable; but a stroll through the village revealed The Red Lion as a welcome refuge for two weary walkers. The rest took a different route back up the hill to the waiting cars, one of which scooped up the pub crawlers on the way home.

On a sunny Sunday afternoon a month later in August three extra cars squeezed into Minster Lovell, vying with cricket fans cheering their teams and tourists enjoying the beauty of the area. A mile across the fields took us to the picturesque thatched village of Crawley and then back through the welcome shade of woodland and along the banks of the Windrush, where families were dipping into the cooling waters. Almost back, and suddenly the attractive ruin of Minster Lovell Hall loomed beside the river. Built in the 1430s the Dovecot still looks intact. A flock of pure white doves

took off as though to say farewell; and finally The Swan supplied iced drinks to send us on our way. A fairly typical Chippy Ramblers' walk – 4 miles in two hours with some historical or ecological interest in good company. Join us on the first Sunday of the month starting in the New Street Car Park at 2pm. For more details contact Heather Leonard on 01608 643691 or rheatherleonard@yahoo.co.uk

Come and join Single File

Single File is a club for unattached people aged 45-75 who live within 15 miles of Chippy. Members enjoy days out, pubs, gardens, historic houses, theatre and cinema visits, walks etc. New members' nights are held 8-10pm usually at the Crown & Cushion (for other venues see website) September dates are 2nd, 16th and 30th. For further information visit www.meetup.com/single-file-chipping-norton or call 07518 979722.

Horticultural Association days out

The Horticultural Association's summer days out continued as planned – to the NEC for the *Gardener's World Live* event in June and in July to the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas. The weather was perfect for both and, although numbers



were down compared to pre-Covid summers, members and friends enjoyed both the visits. On Wednesday 14 September a visit to RHS Wisley is now being booked and at the time of writing a few places remain. The autumn/winter programme is in place – the first meeting is on Wednesday 19 October – more details in next month's News – alternatively visit website www.cnha.uk or call the secretary, Eileen Forse 01608 643275.

North Cotswold Arts Association

The NCAA summer exhibition staged at Burford Warwick Hall, 29 August to 3 September has attracted many members with a high standard of art and craft work including paintings, jewellery, pottery, felt work and glass. Come and see this and hear all about the Association. NCAA meets for demonstrations or talks at Warwick Hall on the second Wednesday of most months and has members from all over the North Cotswolds including several from Chipping Norton. Meetings for the rest of the year are:

Wednesday 12 October *Mixed Media/Drawing & Painting* by Eleanor Campbell

Wednesday 9 November *Flowers and Birds in Pastels* by Sally Middleton

Wednesday 7 December NCAA Christmas Party with the fascinating Irene Tyack from The Yellow Hat Gallery, all meeting at Warwick Hall, Burford Church, 2-4pm.

Contact Fran Buckel fran.buckel@btinternet.com for details.

CLUB NEWS

Green Gym this summer



Those of you who visit the Community Orchard will have noticed how much the trees and grass have grown (we can scarcely keep up with them!) and there are so many apples on some trees that they have needed propping up. If you don't know, the orchard is beyond the New Street playground, down to the little bridge and up again or you can walk along the drive beside the Cemetery. Open to everyone at all times. On Apple Day we have a special family event there – see p11. Do come!

On our other sites we have worked at Fitzalan Wood (near Travis Perkins), Pool Meadow, Hawkyard Copse (the new plantation at the top of the Common), Highlands Day Centre and the Health Centre – where we enjoy a brief chat with passing patients who are very appreciative of the work we do on the gardens there.

If you would like to join us on Wednesday mornings, working in the fresh air on environmental projects in good company visit www.chippygreengym.org and then contact me at jennyharrington@btinternet.com, or phone 01608 643269. Everyone welcome! There is a variety of jobs for all!

Jenny Harrington

Curiosities & fashion next for u3a

In July u3a welcomed members and visitors to Katrina van Grouw's talk about evolution and adaptation in birds. This unusual subject was unexpectedly entertaining and enjoyed by everyone. In August we heard a fascinating talk on the ghosts of Hampton Court given by Sarah Slater, who works there as a Tourist Guide. September's meeting at 2.30pm in the Town Hall on the 7th sees Alan Copeland give an illustrated talk on Cotswold Curiosities. Then on 5 October the speaker will be Kindra Jones, guiding us through 1000 Years of Fashion. All crammed into one hour! Throughout the month, our Interest Groups continued to function, many taking advantage of the summer weather to go on visits. The Garden Group visited Kirkham Farm, Upper Slaughter, with its beautiful flowers and stunning views. The Architecture Group had an interesting walk around Chipping Campden, led by a Volunteer Guide and both Walking Groups were in action locally.

All the Groups are now preparing for our version of a Freshers' Fair, our Open Day, which will be held in Chippy Town Hall on 23 September – see article on page 11.

Chris Clinch

Fascinating stories at History Society

The Chipping Norton History Society will meet on Monday 12 September at 2pm in the Lower Hall at the Methodist Church, West Street. Sean Callery will answer the question: *How did Chippy outgrow Hooky?* Did you know that Hooky was once bigger than Chipping Norton? Sean will tell us all about this plus some fascinating stories about the history and sights in Chipping Norton. Visitors are welcome – visitors' fee £3.

Janis Paxton

Railway Club's Town Hall talks

Chipping Norton Railway Club meets in the lower Town Hall at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday of each month. On 5 July David Aldred gave an interesting account of the Stroud Valley railway and on 2 August Tim Bryan gave a brilliant talk about Brunel and the SS Great Britain. On 6 September Bill Valley will regale us with his recollections of his 51-year career with the British Transport Police, promises to be entertaining. We would welcome new members or just come along as a visitor.

Cicely Maunder

Labour's 'Summer of Solidarity'

Wow what a Summer! And we don't just mean the hot weather! Chippy Labour Party has been very active in the 'Sizzling Summer of Solidarity'. There is a cost of living and spiralling energy cost crisis made worse by inertia and inaction. Fed up with years of austerity, cuts to terms and conditions, and below inflation pay awards, workers in this country are saying 'Enough is Enough!' Chippy Labour is proud to give our support. Locally, we heard from CWU postal reps about the changes Royal Mail seek to impose on them. This will mean a worse service and worse conditions for our posties. We have pledged our ongoing support. We stand with them and urge everyone in Chippy to do likewise! On 17 July we were at the Tolpuddle Martyrs commemoration; on 20 July our Chair, Cllr Steve Akers spoke at the Oxford TUC 'Solidarity Rally'; and on 1 August we gave our solidarity to CWU BT members on their picket line in



Banbury (pictured). We will give our support and solidarity to all rail, postal, BT and other workers, including nurses, other health staff, and teachers, now balloting over pay.

Meanwhile our Councillors at County, District and Town level have been standing up for Chippy over housing, transport and road safety. We fully support the application for Chippy to be a 20mph Town which will help make our beautiful town an even better place to live, work in and visit.

For more information about Chipping Norton Labour Party and its activities, please contact me on 07908 151538.

Steve Akers

National Trust Association news

Membership is open to all National Trust members and volunteers. If you are interested in making the most of your National Trust membership, why not join your local supporter group to enjoy talks and lectures, visits and coach outings, special events and fundraising. We have a vibrant team and a strong membership. Any surplus of funds raised goes to assist local National Trust properties in conservation, improving our heritage and looking after the environment.

Diary dates: *Trips* – 7 September to Wightwick Manor and Gardens, Wolverhampton. 13 October to Derngate Museum

CLUB NEWS

Northampton then Canons Ashby for lunch and visit.
Meeting – 20 October 2pm Broadwell Village Hall. Speaker is Liz Dibble on Churchill's Secret Army in WWII.
Please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ncotswoldassoc or call 01608 659215 or 01608 658157 for further information.

Rees Jenkins

WOWI's summer of fun

I'm writing this while we are all frying in the heat wave. Unfortunately West Oxon WI's meeting in July was cancelled as we were told to stay at home because temperatures were going to reach figures we'd never experienced before. Stay at home? Haven't we heard that before somewhere? However we have enjoyed some lunch outings, our book group is going strong and we're trying to get our craft group going.

The photo is of four of our WOWI members who went on the Oxfordshire Federation holiday to the Lake District. We visited John Ruskin's house on Coniston Water and passed the island on our boat trip that inspired Arthur Ransom to write the *Swallows and Amazons* books, and visited Wordsworth's House and the Beatrix Potter museum. A fabulous trip with brilliant weather.



In August we have our social picnic event. September we're welcoming the Launton Handbell Ringers. We will get the chance to have a go. Come and join us. Third Monday of the month, 7.30pm at St Mary's Parish Rooms, Chipping Norton. Email wowi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk for details. We continue to support the Methodist Church with Sunday Teas the 1st Sunday of the Month, 2.30pm in the Methodist Church.

Hilary Dix 01608 646228

Archaeological Finds Day

Have you ever picked up an old coin, pottery sherd, shaped stone or strange object and wondered whether you were holding a piece of Chipping Norton's history? Well, now you have the chance to find out.

Chipping Norton Archaeological Research Group (CHARG) is joining forces with Chipping Norton Museum to hold a Finds Day at the Museum on Saturday, 8 October 11am-4pm. You are invited to bring along any objects of interest that you may have found in your garden, allotment or while out and about in the area. The Museum will have an expert on hand to help identify and date your find: Edward Caswell is the Finds Liaison Officer for Oxfordshire, appointed by the British Museum as part of the Portable Antiquities Scheme. This national scheme, set up 25 years ago, records archaeological finds discovered by the public, advancing our knowledge of the past.

Curator of Chipping Norton Museum Pauline Watkins said, 'We are excited to have this opportunity to see and record any archaeological objects that residents may have in their homes. Local finds may shed light on past lives and the rich history of the Town'. The aim of the day is to gather information, not the finds themselves! You will be able to take your object home, knowing that you have helped build a

better picture of the town's history through its material culture. Further information via CHARG2022@outlook.com
Jane Beaufoy

Folk Club at the Tite Inn

On another warm summer's evening, we were made welcome by Jason at the Tite Inn, Chadlington. There was a good turnout for our outside session: some regulars, some who hadn't been since before lockdown and some new faces (participating or just listening). Once again, the music was a mix of folk, rock (always good to hear The Grateful Dead at a folk club), traditional, solo singing (Bethan with an amusing Welsh tale of a black pig sung in English) and a response to Mary Beard's comment on grey hair (thank you, Ginnie). We also had some original songs (including *Love of We* by newcomer Ridhima from New York), lovely duets from Rachel and Rosie, interesting accompaniment from Lefty on the cajon, and songs where we could all join in, until it grew too dark to continue. We welcome all to come and participate. Next meeting Monday 12 September 7.30pm. Please sign up for our newsletter at chippingnortonfolk.org.uk for details of next month's venue.

Rosemary Osmond

All about nuts – at NOOG

Our outdoor visits are now over for the year, but we still have some fascinating topics for forthcoming meetings. Our September meeting (Wednesday 7th) will focus on Growing Nuts. David Barbour, who has an extensive nut farm at Heath Farm where he grows hazelnuts, walnuts, sweet chestnuts and some more exotic varieties, will talk about his experiences. His expertise also covers the production of hazelnut and walnut oil, and using the different woods for furniture making. On Wednesday 5 October, after a short AGM, we'll have the opportunity to discuss Peat Free Composts – members are invited to bring samples of both commercial and home-produced composts to compare and contrast.



Meetings are held in the Parish Rooms, Chipping Norton, starting at 7.30pm. Non-members are welcome (members: £1, visitors: £3). For more about N Oxon Organic Gardeners, please contact Tracy Lean, tracylean@gmail.com, 01295 780710, www.noog.org.uk.

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CLUB NEWS

Burford & Kingham Rotary

Colin Stringfellow, our new Rotary President, is pictured (right) presenting outgoing President Ros Richardson with a bouquet of flowers as a thank you for a successful year. Colin then presented Richard Howe with the Vice-President's Ribbon.



Colin will use his year of office to support three local charities: Bridewell Mental Health Recovery Garden, the Lawrence Home Nursing Team and

Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue. Colin will be a superb President – he has lots of great ideas and enthusiasm. He is starting off his year with a barbeque for members and their families.

So the new Rotary year begins with lots of exciting things in the pipe line. Do think about joining us. We are really keen to increase our membership – just email our secretary, John Smith jpw.smith@jasss.co.uk. We meet every Monday at Burford Golf Club at 7pm for 7.30pm (except Bank Holidays).

Ros Richardson

Royal British Legion Chipping Norton

The British Legion in Chipping Norton has been a part of the town community since 1924. It is the custodian of the Town's Remembrance, organising the Remembrance Sunday Parade, Armistice Day service and other commemorations, and keeping the Town War Memorial looking good. We work closely with the Town's cadet forces, schools, churches and the Town Council. As Remembrance-tide approaches we are appealing for volunteers to help our branch of the RBL survive. We organise the annual Poppy Appeal which, over the last five years, has raised over £110,000 to support our wider Armed Forces Community. If you could spare some time to collect during the Poppy Appeal 29 October–12 November please call the Appeal Organiser Carol Peachey on 07785 770813 or email stevekingsford@gmail.com

Why not join our branch? You don't have to have served in the Armed Forces, just share our commitment to the Armed Forces Community, past, present and future. Membership is £18 a year and comes with a free Legion badge and a quarterly magazine and newsletter, and you get to be a part of Britain's leading Armed Forces Charity and help ensure their sacrifices, nationally and locally, are never forgotten. We run social evenings, trips and other events, we enjoy a special kind of comradeship and get to meet some incredible people. Visit <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/things-to-do/membership/become-a-member> to join online – don't forget to select Chipping Norton as your chosen branch. Alternatively you can contact our Secretary Mike Dixon by emailing: dixon.lmichael@sky.com

Steve Kingsford

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Claire & Daniel

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'Tremendous' A level results at Chipping Norton School



Edie Beth & Anna

Students at Chipping Norton School faced the challenge for 2022 of a full set of A Level Exams – having, for their GCSE and A Level years, battled Covid, Lockdown and disruption to learning. They've also never sat any actual public exams! But on 18 August Head Barry Doherty announced a tremendous set of examination results – he praised the 'extraordinary commitment, energy and belief amongst our students and their teachers. Across every subject, our Outstanding Sixth Form can celebrate the impact of hard work undertaken by students and staff. Our community deserves this day after the challenges of the last few years.' Here are some highlights.



Ilia strikes a celebratory pose!

Excellent headline achievements – This year's 2022 results were significantly higher than in 2019 – the last 'normal' A level exam year. 39% of all grades were A* or A, 69% A* to B, 92% A* to C and 100% A* to E. Deputy Headteacher Alan Trainer pointed to good outcomes across a wide range of subjects. Over two-thirds of entries secured A* to B grades in further mathematics (100%), drama & theatre (100%), mathematics (89%), English language and literature (86%), chemistry (85%), physics (75%), fine art (75%), history (71%), sociology (70%), biology (69%) and English literature (69%). Mr Trainer was also pleased with how teachers worked very closely with students, – with accurate assessments and a great joint effort committed to securing a superb set of results.

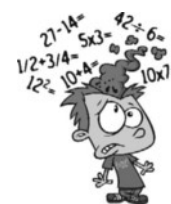


Town Hall celebrations in June for Sixth Form leavers

Grade successes & destinations – Sixth Form Head Peter Ward was delighted with grades and university places. He highlighted 10 students getting thirty-two A* and A grades between them: Oli Ball, Georgia Bell, Jake Briggs, Karina Graham, Rose Heppell, Zach Ibrahim, Anya Kennedy, Dan Large, Olivia Riley and Satu Noble. Examples of university places included Jake Petyt (Cardiff, chemistry with an industry year), Elinor Tomalin (Hull York Medical School) plus first choices achieved for Ellie Shurmer (Worcester, forensic psychology) and Elizabeth Ledgard-Hoile (a coveted Dyson Institute degree apprenticeship). The Outstanding-rated Sixth Form covers subjects from STEM to social sciences, arts and humanities, and is welcoming record numbers of external students. It prides itself on pastoral care, academic provision and striving for best outcomes for all students.

Minds on Maths

It's time to get those minds back into the groove for School. So this month we asked one member of the News team, who helps our local Maths students at Chippy School, for some warm-up exercises – aimed at students in yrs 8–10. Parents can try too! Thanks to Mary Teresa Fyfe. The Answers are on page 33.

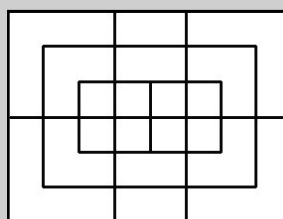


First some Chippy conundrums:

- 1 Round the park** – Bradley takes $3\frac{1}{4}$ minutes to complete a lap of Top School fields on his bike. Sally takes $4\frac{1}{3}$ minutes to complete the same lap on her scooter. They both set off from the Leisure Centre at 2pm. At what time do they return to the Leisure Centre together?
- 2 At the Co-op fish counter** – The combined weight of two fish is 247g. The smaller fish weighs four-ninths of the larger. What is the weight of the larger fish?
- 3 Counting at Mr Simms** – A quarter of the sweets in my bag at the shop are blue, a sixth are green, one eighth are red. The rest of the sweets are yellow. What is the least number of yellows that I could have in my bag?

Try getting you get your head round these numbers?

- 5 Find a three-digit number** with the following properties: the number is 36 times the sum of its digits; 7 times the hundreds digit plus 9 is 5 times the sum of the remaining digits; 8 times the tens digit minus 9 is the sum of the hundreds and units digits.
- 6 Use all of the integers** 4,5,6,7,8 and 9 once only to obtain an answer of 59.
- 7 Find two numbers** so that the square of the smaller added to the larger is 47 and the smaller added to the square of the larger is 127.



4 Chippy's Market Square – How many squares of any sizes are in this diagram?

Well done – you are ready for action!

Chipping Norton School

Year 10 Work Experience:

Having not been able to run Year 10 Work Experience for two years, we were delighted to go ahead this year during last term. We had students at over 144 companies in Oxfordshire and as far afield as Torquay. We were delighted to receive lots of positive feedback from both students and employers, and are very grateful for the support given by all the businesses involved.



Young Fashion Designer UK:

Our Year 9/10 Textiles GCSE students entered this year's competition which asked our young designers to think responsibly about the impact we all have on our environment. Every year the competition's standard of work is exceptionally high and all the students should be very proud producing outstanding work.

Congratulations to finalists Eva James and Cerys Moss – awarded

a highly commended certificate for their design work.

Sports News: Despite postponement of Sports Day until next term, students have had plenty of opportunity to enjoy sports. Our Year 7 Cricket team finished runners-up in the County League, losing to a very strong Burford team. Year 8 Cricket team beat Lord Williams School in the semi-final and now face Faringdon Community College in next term's final. Year 8 and Year 9 Rounders teams qualified for the County School Games finals at Radley College, playing brilliantly winning Bronze medals in both their competitions. 67 CNS students participated in the annual West Oxon Athletics Championships, with amazing performances and records (some running for 16 years) broken! CNS finished overall runners, missing out on winning by only 7 points!

Oxfordshire High Sheriff Award for Engineering

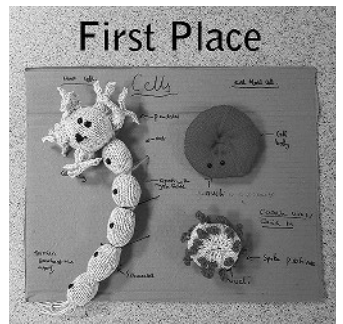


Excellence: It was another great night for Chipping Norton School at Abingdon & Witney College where the Oxfordshire High Sheriff Award for Engineering Excellence 2022 ceremony took place. A number of CNS students were nominated for the prestigious award, competing against other Oxfordshire schools. We are delighted to announce that Felix Keeling and Maddie Palmer in Year 9 came 2nd and 3rd in the Year 9 competition. A fantastic achievement! Huge congratulations to both.

Students took part in a number of competitions to win house points. We were very impressed by the number and quality of entrants for all the competitions. Winners were: 'Crossing Borders' poetry – Evie Southall (Year 7); Create a Model of a Cell – Naomi Boddy (Year 7) – pictured; Photography competition – Maddi Hall (Year 10).

House Competitions:

Students took part in a number of competitions to win house points. We were very impressed by the number and quality of entrants for all the competitions. Winners were: 'Crossing Borders' poetry – Evie Southall (Year 7); Create a Model of a Cell – Naomi Boddy (Year 7) – pictured; Photography competition – Maddi Hall (Year 10).



CNPS News: We held three Family Focus workshops for Years 4, 5 and 6 this term. At the Music workshop run by Mr Brown, children and adults used percussion instruments to create a musical story based on colour. Mrs Lee ran two sessions of tennis and Miss Kearns and the Maths department ran a workshop based on patterns in nature, including the Fibonacci sequence and Pascal's triangle. The academic year's last sports festival was the U11 Cricket. We held two competitions, one for the Partnership's big schools and one for small schools. Congratulations to Holy Trinity and Chadlington, winning in their categories. Mr Long and Miss Skill held a Creative Writing Club over three weeks for Years 4, 5 and 6 pupils from Chipping Norton Partnership primary schools. Mr James, assisted by some Year 7 students, enabled some Year 5 children from our primaries to join our Food Technology kitchen to create a delicious vegetable stir-fry and the Maths Department led an AIM workshop designed to stretch and challenge children.

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Great Rollright Primary



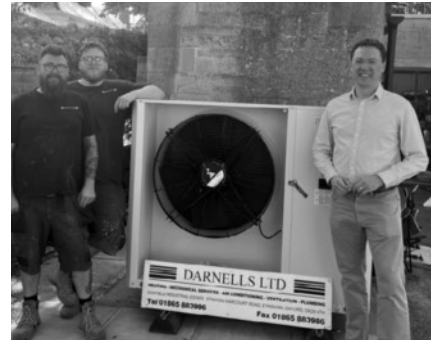
Another class of Yr 6s are making the exciting move up to secondary school this month, and in July we did our best to give them a rousing send-off. In their final week, they enjoyed a busy day out in London (pictured left), picnicking in the park and going to see a performance of the musical *Wicked*. On the last day, the whole school – and many proud parents – gathered in St Andrew’s Church next door for our annual Leavers’ Service. As always, it was a moving event in which each Yr 6 child said a personal goodbye to the School receiving our best wishes for the future.

Also in July, we welcomed all children starting Reception this autumn, along with parents and some grandparents, for a fun day of play, art, and storytelling. Our current children were brilliant hosts and the new children seemed to have a great time getting to know them and us – which we hope will help them settle in well when school starts. Parents and carers are encouraged to visit to see all we offer – including a free bus to Chipping Norton. Please make an appointment by calling 01608 737202.

St Mary’s Primary

A greener future

Not much news while everyone has a well-earned break but the School is clearly investing in a greener future for our children! Our local MP Robert Courts was pleased to make a July visit to St Mary’s to learn



more about how the School is working to become more energy efficient and cut costs – including installation of a new air source heat pump. He is pictured with the new technology, and the Darnells Ltd team members who are installing the system.

Holy Trinity Primary

Reports from the School’s website



Wetlands Wonder In July, Year 5 had a great trip to Slimbridge Wetlands Centre to enrich their topic of Rivers and the water cycle with its impact on the ecosystem. The children became ‘rangers’ conducting surveys across the site, testing water quality and identifying a range of wildlife and plants to determine ecosystem success. Spotted were rare cranes, a sleeping otter plus swans, geese, ducks and more.

Wonderful sports day

The School’s website reported a great June Sports Day: ‘a carousel of activities’ such as stand and jump, shooting, speed bounce, javelin, ball retrieval, obstacle course, races including egg and spoon, skipping, hurdles and sprints. A huge well done to Gloucester – the overall winners of the Day! In July the School also achieved a Gold Sports Mark for commitment and engagement to the School Games for 2021/22.





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Minds on Maths ANSWERS

1 = 2.13pm 2 = 17lg 3 = 11 (there are 24 sweets altogether) 4 = 25 squares; 5 = 324
 6 = (6+5) × 7 – $\frac{(8 \times 9)}{4}$ 7 = 6 and 11

Theatre's first wedding day

I have just managed to read your July/August issue and noticed your article on Jeremy Clarkson's daughter's wedding where you mentioned that The Theatre has recently gained a licence for weddings. Well, on 15 July, I and my, now husband Andrew were the first to be married



Photo: Stephen Furlonger, Lumino photography

there. It was a truly incredible and memorable day and our guests were so impressed by how unique and quirky the venue was. They said that they had never been to a wedding like it. We then followed the champagne reception with dinner and dancing at The Chequers where Darren kindly closed the bar and restaurant for us. Despite us living in Chippy on the Bellway estate, the wedding was a Yorkshire Scottie affair meaning kilts, Scottish tablet and plenty of tipples! Please find attached a photo of us at The Theatre if you did want to mention it in your September issue to mark The Theatre's first wedding. (See also front page picture)

Charlotte and Andrew, now Mr & Mrs Small

Road safety update from Town Councillors

Following the tragic incident earlier in the year at the junction of New Street/High Street, a Town meeting was convened with OCC's Cabinet Travel and Development Lead, Cllr Duncan Enright, and our own County Councillor Geoff Saul to express our concerns over the lack of safe crossing places in our Town. Since then we have had productive meetings with officers from OCC and can report that a traffic survey is planned for early autumn which is the first step in a formal assessment for new crossings on New Street and West Street. We are also working with the County Council on a bigger project around cycling and walking routes which will be submitted later this year for review by the County Council Cabinet in 2023. We have identified a number of priority crossing points and dangerous spots that need to be made safer particularly on school walking routes, and have also identified safer cycle routes which avoid the main roads – our ambition is for everyone to feel safer while walking or cycling through town. And on that note, a reminder to complete the 20mph survey – we believe this is a really important step in making Chippy feel a nicer and healthier place to live – but we want to know your opinions.

Cllr Mark Walker, Cllr Rachel Foakes

(See article on page 4 on Town Council's 20mph consultation – Ed)

Accident thanks

We would like to express our thanks to everyone who helped us on Saturday 10 August when we were knocked down by a car in the town centre. Particular thanks to the nurse and doctor who attended us and to Sainsbury's and the estate agent who provided cool water for everyone. What a lovely caring community you have.

Linda and Tony Chew, Birmingham

Council's proactive bench programme

The problem with the voluntarist approach envisaged and still proposed by Mike Tysie (letters July/August: 'Town on show – flags and benches'), with regard to the maintenance of the Town's memorial benches, was that virtually nothing happened. This is why the current Town Council agreed a programme for their maintenance and restoration. I do not normally respond to Mike's ever growing litany of critical and negative letters regarding our Town Council, but on this occasion was honour-bound to do so as he highlighted the condition of the memorial bench to my late friend and comrade, and a former Mayor, Labour and Cooperative Councillor, Gina Burrows. Gina's memorial bench will be restored to its former glory in a second planned stage of maintenance and restoration of benches approved by the Council. We have also approved memorial benches to former Town Councillors John Grantham and Eve Coles, both of whom sadly died earlier this year. They both deserve this.

Steve Akers – Town Councillor and Chair Chipping Norton Labour Party

(See article on page 14 on new town benches – Ed)

Chippy's War Service in Kenya

The British Legion, Chipping Norton Branch, have had an enquiry from Kenya asking for information on three Chipping Norton residents who served in that country in World War Two. They are Geoffrey Balfour, a sergeant in the East African Pioneers, Nora Pascoe, a nursing sister in the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, and Frank Pratley (pictured) a Leading Air Mechanic with the Fleet Air Arm who served at RNAS MacKinnon Road in East Africa. If you have any information please get in touch via email stevekingsford@gmail.com or by calling 01295 780716



Steve Kingsford

(Would you like to volunteer to help Chipping Norton's branch of the Royal British Legion? – see Clubs page 30.)

Use of Glyme Hall

The charity running Glyme Hall should be ashamed of themselves. Saturday morning in the midst of summer and the hall is empty. No coffee club during the summer. No bring-and-buy fair. No income! When I asked to use Glyme Hall for a teenage club I was told by the administrators that teenagers would cause disruption and damage. My survey of teenagers showed they only wanted somewhere to drink coffee and use the free WiFi. Surely this facility is for all the people of Chipping Norton?

Gordon Brown

Chipping Norton against Nuclear War

There are reports of nuclear exercises in Lakenheath in Suffolk where the weapon vaults there were finally emptied in 2008. We must do everything possible to prevent nuclear weapons being sited here. I view with anger and fear our Government's plan to spend £206 billion over the next twenty years on replacing Trident and who knows how much on increasing our nuclear arsenal by 60 or more missiles. The next USA v ANO war will be fought in Europe. The US is the only country to locate its nuclear weapons outside its own

LETTERS

borders. We need the same energy, commitment, and confidence as we showed in the 1980's. At that time, Chipping Norton CND branch (Secretary Eve Coles) had 150 members, held regular open events and mounted local protests. Given a reasonable level of encouragement and support, I will get the branch going again! Would you join me?

Mike Cahill – contact 078766 85417 or annapers@aol.com

Illegal parking – ‘so what?’

Walking down New Street from Sainsbury's I noticed a gentleman parking this large SUV (a VW Toureg), on the pedestrian crossing outside Royals hairdressers.

As he crossed the road I pointed out that he shouldn't park there as it was obstructing not only the pavement but also the crossing. A pram



or wheelchair could never have got round without facing the dangers of New Street traffic. He looked round to see my point, shrugged his shoulders and said ‘so what’. I said I would take a photo and inform the authorities. His reply was ‘go on then’. I sent the photo to Oxfordshire County Council and their reply was bureaucratic and extremely disinterested. I thought I would send the photo to you in the hope that you might be able to publish it and hopefully, if he is a Chippy resident, to let people who know him or his car to appreciate his arrogance and realise how he views Chippy and its residents. If local residents don't stand up to this behaviour it will continue and men (and women) like this will continue to treat Chippy with disdain.

Pete Godfrey

Our MP's record on climate emergency

I wonder if anyone notices how our MP Robert Courts votes in in the House of Commons? It's easy to see his voting record if you search online on sites such as theyworkforyou.com. It is a fascinating read, particularly his attitude to the climate emergency. Robert Courts has consistently voted against measures to prevent climate change. Here's a snapshot: ‘Robert Courts voted against a motion calling on the Government to rebuild the economy so that it works in the interest of the many, not just handing out rewards to those at the top’ and bring forward ‘a green industrial revolution to decarbonise the economy and boost economic growth’. Also he voted not to call on the Government to develop and implement a plan to eliminate the substantial majority of transport emissions by 2030. This may go some way to explaining why he is so vocal against the idea of 20mph zones being introduced in towns, a measure which many believe will greatly improve lives in towns.

Alison Wright

(See article page 4 on 20mph schemes – Ed)

Good Samaritan with jump leads!

Recently I was returning to Chippy after a u3a trip to Chipping Campden when my friend's car broke down on the A44 between Moreton and Salford. Fortunately for us, a Good Samaritan came to the rescue of two grandmothers! A young farmer left his work in a field, moved our car which was blocking the gate, then drove to his farm nearby. He came back with a set of jump leads and with the help of his two young fellow workers, they got the car going. We didn't want to risk stopping again, so we were unable to thank them. We have no idea who they were but their help was much appreciated! Thank you!

Chris Clinch

The Chipping Norton News Team welcomes letters but reminds writers that name & address must be supplied and that the opinions expressed are not those of the Team.

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The Chipping Norton News is printed on environmentally approved paper

Bumble & Fawn – A passion for plants



Our newest addition to the High Street, Bumble & Fawn, brings a boost to our wellbeing, with a touch of nature, to Chipping Norton. Next door to Oats, it opened in July with a reception attended by Mayor Cllr Sandra Coleman. The News Team went along.



As a small, family run business, run by Chippy residents Lucy and James Hathaway, Bumble & Fawn specialises in house plants and accessories, outdoor garden furniture and offers expert advice on plant care. Taking a holistic approach to plant-keeping, the team are on hand with practical tips and tricks to help you choose a plant that will flourish in your home environment. Bumble & Fawn's handpicked selection of plants includes a range of exotic and rare varieties not often found in garden centres. Packaged with love and care, there is something for every skill, style and budget. Whether you're a houseplant expert or a complete beginner, the team will ensure you leave confident in caring for your happy, healthy plant. From plant walls (plant boxes attached to walls) to air plants (plants without plant pots), you can use plants to add height, enhance a small space or bring interest and calm to any area.



From air-purifying plants to encouraging the ritual of tending to a plant and watching it thrive, Bumble & Fawn are advocates of the belief that indoor plants offer many mental health benefits. Believed to reduce stress, boost productivity and improve the quality of air, indoor gardening and cultivated green spaces can improve both our mental and physical wellbeing. Having recently moved from Buckingham, Lucy said that Bumble & Fawn have received a lovely, warm welcome from their new customers, and the team can't wait to share their knowledge and expertise, and healthy plants, nurtured with love and care, with Chipping Norton residents. Look out for the 'plant of the week' – but be quick, they're very popular!



DIARY

September (News out TUESDAY 30 August)

- 2-4 **Lawrence Team Fundraising Weekend** see p17
- 2nd **Single File New Members' Night** - see p27 for details & other dates
- 3rd **Last Day of N Cots Arts Assoc Summer Exhibition** in Burford - details p27
- 4th **Rugby season starts** see p25 for details
Ramblers meet 2pm New St car park details - see p 27
Cuppa, Cake & Chat 2.30-4 Methodist Church - see p29
- 5th **Methodist Craft & Cuppa** 10am-noon
- 6th **Methodist Coffee Morning** for Katharine House Hospice 9.30-11.30am in the Hall
Railway Club 7.30 Upper Town Hall - see p28
- 7th **u3a** 2.30pm Town Hall - details p28
NOOG 7.30 Parish Rooms - see p29
Town Council: Community Cttee 6.30pm Town Hall
- 8th **Amnesty** - 7.30 Lower Town Hall - see p27
- 9th **CHIPPING NORTON NEWS DEADLINE** - see p34
Dementia Friends Session 3pm Penhurst Gardens see p21

- 10-18 **National Racehorse Week** see p6
- 11th **Lido end of season Dog Swim** - see p12
- 12th **History Society** 2.pm Methodist Hall - details p28
Folk Club 7.30 Venue TBC - see p29
- 14th **Council 20mph survey deadline** - see p4
- 15-17 **Mop Fair** - see p9 NB No Farmers Market this month
- 19th **West Ox WI** 7.30pm Parish Rooms - see p29
- 20th **CN Probus** 11am Crown & Cushion details 01993 830760
- 23rd **u3a Open Day** 11am-3pm Town Hall - see p11
- 25th **Apple Day** noon-3pm Community Orchard - see p11
Council Grants for Voluntary Bodies deadline for applications - see p3

October (News out WEDNESDAY 28 September)

- 2nd **Ramblers** meet 2pm New St car park - see p27
Cuppa, Cake & Chat 2.30-4 Methodist Church - see p29
- 4th **Railway Club** 7.30 Upper Town Hall - see p28
- 5th **u3a** 2.30pm Town Hall - details p28
Town Council: Full Council meeting 6.30pm Town Hall
NOOG 7.30 Parish Rooms - see p29