

## Arts for All

**May welcomes Artweeks – festivals & fun on the way**

**Visit Chippy's showcase** – after April's successful ChiplitFest, the News this month features an Artweeks colour centre spread – as scores of local arts and crafts experts open their studios... and don't forget to try bonnet-making and willow weaving at the Community Orchard's Blossom Day,

**Lots on in May!** – There's also Bledington Music Festival, a new Farm & Food Literature Festival at FarmEd, and lots at The Theatre including Fairport Convention, CHAOS's Night at the Musicals, and *The Mountain Top* – an award-winning play about Martin Luther King,

**More festivals to come** – Save that 5 June date for the Jubilee & Town Festival, and see trailers inside for Dean & Chadlington Music Festival, the new Kite Festival of Ideas & Music, Wilderness, Cornbury, Cropredy and the Big Festival,



### Supporting Ukraine

Chippy sends urgent supplies to Poland and there's useful advice from Charlbury Refugee Action Group on how to support and welcome refugees. See p3.

### News in this issue

- Come to the Annual Town Meeting on 23 May
- Tributes to Honorary Citizen John Grantham
- More on Town traffic, parking and safety
- When will Chippy Maternity Unit reopen?
- Local horses at the Grand National

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

### Town Sports Awards



~ Team Awards for CN Rugby U12s and Swifts U10 Girls

~ U18 Gold Medal winner Elodie Brown

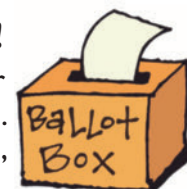
~ Mayor & Deputy with Caleb Lynchsmith  
– U11 sportperson



The Chipping Norton Sports Awards are back, with a Town Hall ceremony – see p23 for report and lots more pictures.

### Don't forget to VOTE!

Local elections on 5 May for Town & District Councillors. See p2 for the candidates, their photos & profiles.



## 5 May Local Election Candidates

### Chipping Norton Town Council

*You have two votes for two vacant seats (out of 16). One year remaining of a four-year term.*



**Steve Akers – Labour Party** Steve has lived in Chippy for over 20 years. He will be known to many residents for his campaigning work, most recently against sewage pollution to our rivers. He worked closely with Eve Coles in defence of our Hospital as a member of the Hospital Action Group, and against Tory cuts to our public services. He was a key member of

the Save the Ace Centre Campaign. Steve has worked for the NHS and for UNISON. He will bring a wide range of campaigning, negotiating and organising skills to the Town Council. He is married with two teenage sons.



**Scott Fisher – Independent** I've lived in Chipping Norton for many years and have seen many changes in that time - some for the better, but not all. I wish to encourage a greater sense of community and firmly believe Chippy can be a better place to live and work if more people get involved in the life of the Town. Local facilities such as public amenities, charities and recreation

facilities would all benefit from greater community involvement. Issues such as housing, public transport and traffic etc, all need improving and, in some cases, fighting to protect. If I am elected, I will bring determination, accountability and transparency to the position.



**Chris Knowles – The Conservative Party** I moved to Chippy in 2010. Always interested in the welfare of the town, I have worked with Chipping Norton Health Centre, banning HGVs from the town, and promoting business facilities for East Chipping Norton. The latest ECN plan must solve traffic problems as well as houses, and do so now, not in another 10

years. There is local discussion about a long-term vision for Chippy, but we need short term action now, not another opportunity for delaying progress into the unknown future. Discussion about a relief road started in 1968, only 54 years ago. Absolutely not good enough.



**Sharon Wheaton – Labour Party** I have lived in Chipping Norton for six years, before that in Little Compton. Chippy has always been my go-to town and it is special to me because it is a community made up of vibrant, free-thinking people; it is a town with values. As a young mum of two, I set up a mail-order business and then went on to run an

independent art gallery. I believe that my financial and business experience would be useful to other independent traders seeking to take up and retain their rightful place in our High Street, as well as to the Town Council's broader agenda.

### West Oxfordshire District Council

*Voting is for one of three Chipping Norton Ward seats, each a four-year term.*



**Ivan Aguado Melet – Liberal Democrat** The candidate for the Chipping Norton ward District Council seat for the Liberal Democrat Party will be Ivan Aguado Melet. Ivan, (46 yrs old) is a horse trainer and equestrian working nearby in Churchill where he lives. He believes passionately in animal welfare and environmental issues. He has lived in the

area for seven years and supports the Chipping Norton Theatre as well as the local independent shops, restaurants and cafés as the heart of the local economy. He is also a keen gardener and believes we should support sustainable farming and the promotion of local produce. Ivan will work to support young people and welcomes the youth service coming back this year. Ivan is engaging and easy to talk to, a great listener and willing to act to get things done on behalf of all residents.



**Rizvana Poole – Labour & Cooperative Party** Hi! I'm Rizvana Poole and I live near the Town Centre with my husband and two sons, one at primary school and the other at secondary. I've served on Chipping Norton Town Council for three years and one of the reasons why I am standing for election to the District is to support Geoff and Mike in their efforts

to get the two Councils to work more effectively together. Provision for our young people needs to be a high priority and I secured funding from the County for two years and the Chipping Norton Youth club opened its doors last month. The crisis in Ukraine has shown how willingly and generously our community will come together given enthusiastic leadership. Chippy Larder is a community hub where people can obtain help and advice – or just have a chat. If elected, I want to work with others to make more things happen.



**Emma Leeming – The Conservative Party** Emma is married to Wayne, with two children, Lily who is 6 and Arthur, 3 and the family live in Carterton. Emma has worked and lived in West Oxfordshire for over 25 years. Since moving here she has seen the political landscape in Chipping Norton change from Labour to Conservative and back to Labour. Having

spoken to residents recently she understands the frustration the people of Chipping Norton feel at not being listened to. She will work with local people to get their voices heard and be available to speak to anyone should they have any concerns. Emma believes that action must be taken on HGV's travelling through the centre of town, the tragic fatal accident recently highlights how unsafe the narrow High Street is. Emma supports plans to solve traffic problems in Chipping Norton and if elected in May, she pledges to be a strong voice for the Town.

## Ukraine support & refugees



*Unloading the Chippy Larder truck in Poland*

March and April saw Chipping Norton respond to the Ukrainian crisis. First up were local groups, schools and individuals collecting essential supplies for humanitarian relief. Loaded trucks made it to Poland – including from the Chippy Larder, with its organiser Rizvana Poole joined by Bruern Farm's Henry Astor and our ex-MP David Cameron sharing the driving.

Attention has now turned to offering support and accommodation to refugees arriving in the UK. Val Parker, Chair of the Charlbury Refugee Action Group (CRAG), told the News how local support is being marshalled. She said 'At the time of writing, at least seven Charlbury families and others in Chipping Norton and surrounding villages are preparing to welcome Ukrainian guests. CRAG is becoming a central point for co-ordinating our local response and disseminating information and advice to those who wish to help. Individuals and community groups are coming forward with offers such as hairdressing, riding, therapy, cooking meals, language teaching, interpreting and social events. It is heartwarming to see so many volunteers coming together to provide sanctuary and welcome.'

If you would like to offer help or find out more information about hosting, fundraising, or making donations, CRAG has created a designated webpage which is full of useful information:



<https://bit.ly/crag-ukraine>. It could be that you are willing to offer transport to appointments, that you speak Russian or Ukrainian, or have a TEFL certificate. Maybe you could help families register with a school or take them to the Polish shop in Witney to buy supplies. There is a myriad of ways in which help will be welcome. Meanwhile CRAG continues with fundraising – including for other global refugee challenges. (More in Clubs on page 29). Local Councils are also acting as clearing points for information and advice – see 'Ukraine support' on [www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk) for latest information on the share a home schemes and much more.

## The Pit Kitchen is back!

Were you a fan of The Pit Kitchen last summer? If you were, you'll be delighted to know that the brothers will be back! Yes, last year's pop-up foodie experience is set to return to a more permanent location on the Cornwell Estate from 11 May. Brothers Adam and James have now secured full planning permission for their outdoor kitchen to operate from 5pm–10pm Wednesday to Saturday from 11 May to the end of September for three years – this time off the lane to Cornwell Hill Farm, just off the A44 past Southerndown Care

Home. The brothers' Middle Eastern inspired shawarmas, sarnies, soup and small plates won accolades from last year's diners, so much so that 290 people wrote to WODC in support of the planning application! The brothers say they'll be back 'on an epic new site (roof provided), with some banging new dishes and (if possible) an even friendlier welcome!'

## Chequers' quiz whizzes

A local quiz team from the Chequers, Chipping Norton has



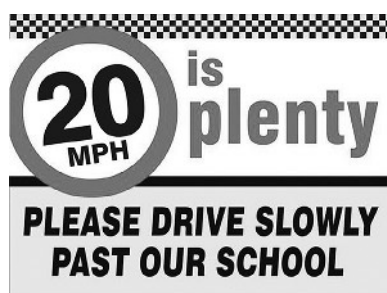
*The quiz team pictured in the Chequers with their trophy*

managed to win the Oxford Mail Quiz League championship this year. After a long winter schedule involving 26 weeks playing teams home and away, they managed to prevail. The team comprises Suzanne Montaille (capt), Bob Harris, David Hicks, Rupert Blakeley, Jason Shuffe, and Brian Robson. The team would like to thank The Chequers for their hospitality in providing lovely food for each home game which has been much appreciated by all teams.

## Town traffic and safety issues

March's urgent Ton Hall meeting saw Oxfordshire's Cabinet member Duncan Enright and Chippy Cllr Geoff Saul hear over 100 people raise traffic pollution, congestion and safety issues. As reported in April's News, top was a 20+ year wait for OCC to find a proper solution to HGVs and heavy traffic through town. 400 HGVs drive through Chippy each day. One strong view insisted 'No Masterplan for 1000+ new homes' until a traffic solution is agreed and fully funded. OCC, as major landowner, should use some of their land sale £millions to do this. The two councillors said work was continuing on options. The audience had many ideas for town safety, including: traffic lights at the top of New Street; changing junction layouts; dealing with Horsefair's narrow pavements; extending 40mph limits to the Shell garage; extending new 20mph limits beyond the town centre up to or beyond schools; educating haulage associations; and dealing with dangerous crossings such as at ACE Centre and Albion Street.

All this was fine but enforcement was also needed. Cameras and penalties for breaking 20mph limits needed action, with police backing. There is a Speedwatch camera available for volunteers to use but it needs



championing, coordination, training and police help to work. Contact the Town Council for information. One menace was noise and disruption from motorbikes, HGVs and

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'performance cars' parading through town. One practical idea could deploy 'acoustic cameras' (currently used in France) to penalise excess noise. Cllr Enright mooted that Chippy might close to traffic more regularly, as in France, for community events! So what action? Cllr Mark Walker, on our Traffic Advisory Committee, acknowledged that there had been more 'engagement' on this by OCC since last year's local elections. OCC was now aiming to prioritise cyclists and pedestrians. Cllr Enright said they were listening and would be back for another meeting in six weeks. But all this will need real plans, funding and action. Watch this space.

## More delay for East Chippy plan



It'll be a while before the bulldozers move on to Tank Farm, allocated for 1,000+ homes as East Chipping Norton – with another delay in the main 'Master-planning' process which is being led by the main landowner, Oxfordshire County Council. They had

set up a Liaison Group, involving the other major landowner Cala Homes, plus representatives from third landowner Field Reeves, Town Council, William Fowler Trust whose allotments are probably affected by the new road, and some community representatives. The first meeting on 31 March set out their intended rapid process, first to get a broad-brush Masterplan for the whole site agreed by WODC before summer, followed by individual detailed applications for each phase. There would be no overall outline planning application for the whole site, and potentially no total site Environmental Assessment. All an unusual process and not one welcomed by the Town Council.

The Liaison Group's next fortnightly meeting, looking at green issues, was set for 14 April. But just before it, attendees were told the Masterplan process was to be 'paused' until some other further survey work had been concluded. Town Councillors were told that there may have been unexpected archaeological findings, but confirmation is awaited from the developer's team. Public consultation events programmed for May seem now seem unlikely. The *Chipping Norton News* was expecting to advertise these events, but no details have yet been received.

But, meanwhile, behind the scenes, the Town Council are putting in a lot of work to feed ideas from the Town into the Masterplanning. Their own Working Group, meeting regularly and using the skills and knowledge of local people, is full of ideas as to how this big urban extension should be designed and relate to the existing town. Early thoughts include protecting the sensitive biodiversity of the Glyme Valley, ensuring sufficient open space, particularly sports pitches, and ensuring any allotments lost to the new road are re-provided. These will all be put to the landowners. If you think you can contribute to the Town Council's Working Group please contact the Deputy Town Clerk Katherine Yang at [deputyclerk@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk).

## Annual Town Meeting: 23 May

Everyone in Chipping Norton is invited to attend a Community Meeting to be held at 7pm on Monday 23 May in the Upper Town Hall, facilitated by the Town Council on behalf of the electorate. This is not a Council meeting, but an



official Annual Parish Meeting of the Town's citizens as an opportunity for residents to raise and discuss matters affecting the Town, and about the future. Registered electors are entitled to vote on any resolutions proposed. The meeting is legally required to be held between March and May at the end of the Civic Year. Because of Covid, this official meeting has not been held for two years, but the Town Council organised a Community Meeting last October which covered similar ground.

A Town Council statement said, 'The Mayor will open the meeting and the Town Council committee chairs will present brief reports to let you know what the Council has been working on for the last year, and its future plans. We also hope to have local groups and organisations with information stalls at the Town Hall. If you are interested, please get in touch with us. Residents are encouraged to take part in the public question session, which will focus on the East Chipping Norton Development. If you have any questions you would like to raise, it would be helpful if they could be submitted in advance of the meeting. You can submit your questions by letter or send an email to the Deputy Town Clerk [deputyclerk@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk) or in writing to the Guildhall. The agenda will be published on our website, noticeboards, and on the Chipping Norton Town Council's Facebook event page.

## Town Council starts new year

Chipping Norton Town Council holds its first full Council meeting of its Civic Year at 7.15 on Monday 16 May in the Upper Town Hall. Two new Councillors, elected on 5 May, will be able to attend making 16 in total. This is the 'Annual Meeting of the Council' where the Mayor and Deputy for the year will be nominated and elected, and new Committees will be agreed. The public are welcome to attend and can speak at the 'Public Participation' agenda item if they request this of the Town Clerk in advance. After two disruptive years with Covid and staffing, the Town Council moves forward with a full plan for services and projects. The budget (from April for 12 months) has increased, with a 5% increase in Council Tax, and some planned use of reserves. However, the Finance Committee heard in April that spending for the year ending March 2022 was lower than budgeted, with over £60,000 likely to be



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added back to reserves and carried forward. Considerable work, for example, on the Town Hall repairs, will still need to take place. The Town Council also aim to increase public engagement with an imminent new website and plans to start a regular newsletter also available free online. The Council's forward schedule of meetings can be viewed on their website. For any enquires contact [townclerk@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk)

## Grand National's Chippy buzz



Top: Snow Leopardess pictured with Jess Benfield & Charlie Longsdon

Right: Support from The Fox

was the recipient of massive pre-race publicity. A feature on national BBC News, articles in the press and much hype by ITV Racing's Alice Plunkett (breeder/owner Marietta Fox-Pitt's daughter-in-law) dominated the week before the world's most famous steeplechase. A grey 10-year-old mare, Snow Leopardess had a foal whilst off with injury and had been nursed back to peak health by Marietta, Charlie and her loyal lass Jess Benfield. Charlie's brother-in-law, Ben Pauling, now based at Naunton Downs near Bourton on the Water had his first runner in the race with Kildisart.

But maybe one runner with local connections had got overlooked in all the hype. Amateur jockey Sam Waley-Cohen, whose family live at Upton Stud near Banbury, has previously won six times over the National fences. Having announced his retirement earlier at the meeting, he knew he was riding his very last race over the famous fences. His horse, Noble Yeats, won at 50/1. His father, Robert, owns the horse so it was very much a family affair. Snow Leopardess's jockey, Aidan Coleman decided that Snow Leopardess was not enjoying the race and pulled her up at the 17<sup>th</sup> fence whilst James Bowen aboard Kildisart got unseated at The Chair. Both the horses were reported to be safe and sound after the race.

## Over Norton Road closure

Part of Over Norton Road will be closed on 7 and 8 May for resurfacing work. Stagecoach have said their Route 50 will have to run a different way. Buses will run via A3400 and Banbury Rd between Long Compton and Chipping Norton. Bus stops on Over Norton Rd and in Over Norton village

will not be served. The 488 to Banbury is also likely to be affected.

## Blossom Day at the Orchard



Everyone is welcome to Blossom Day on Sunday 8 May at Chipping Norton's Community Orchard (off the Worcester Road) from noon to 3pm. With beautiful blossom as a background, come and enjoy the chance to dance with the Morris Men and learn to weave with willow. Children and adults can leave with a personal headpiece made and decorated with your own fair hands – a variation on a Spring bonnet. Have a go at the pole lathe and other country crafts while munching on local cheeses and the new legendary seasonal cakes and desserts. Donations are invited to cover costs and keep the orchard going. Dogs welcome. See you there! NB If you are interested in joining the Orchard's friendly team who look after this iconic spot, especially if you have pruning skills, please get in touch via [rheatherleonard@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rheatherleonard@yahoo.co.uk) 01608 643691.

Heather Leonard

## Chippy's national cycling start

Put Saturday 11 June in the diary for a Chippy cycling bonanza! The 2022 Women's Tour, Britain's biggest and longest running international women's cycling stage race, will end with a spectacular Oxfordshire finale in June. Over 100 professional riders will complete the 90 mile Stage 6 starting in Chipping Norton, then going via Carterton, Faringdon and Didcot to the finish line in Oxford City. Race organiser Sweetspot have a three-year partnership with Oxfordshire councils, and this stage visits parts of the County not featured before. Race Director Mick Bennett promised the 'beautiful market town of Chipping Norton' would 'put on a show' to start the stage. WODC's leader Michele Mead was delighted, saying, 'Chipping Norton is already a popular destination for visitors; this event will give a great boost to local businesses and traders as well as showcasing the beauty of our District.'



The Women's Tour is the UK's first international stage race for women, bringing the world's top riders to compete in Great Britain as a part of the UCI Women's World Tour. It attracts an annual roadside audience of 300,000, as well as over three million media fans. Last year, in Banbury and Bicester, large crowds and cycling enthusiasts turned out. Chipping Norton Town Council were consulted on the plans and welcomed the event coming to the Town Centre. Organisers hope that local schools and clubs will be inspiring

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everyone to organise cycling, sport and fitness lessons. Town Cllr Mark Walker, an active cyclist, will be working with colleagues and Transition Chipping Norton on their 'Cycling Chippy' initiative to promote cycling even more in Chippy – with events in and around 11 June. Further details, including the Women's Tour Oxfordshire stage full route, locations and timetables, will follow in due course.

## Out helping to Fix our Streets



Last month the News reported on the new 'Fix My Street Super User' scheme asking for volunteers to train up to report pothole and kerb damage and directly initiate action by the County Council. Chippy's Deputy Mayor Sandra Coleman was pleased to see the article – she had already signed up to join, but was worried she couldn't cover the whole town – 'we need more!' Sandra explained that trained local residents, who know the local issues,

can mark up potholes in side streets and pavements and report direct to the County works team to fill them quickly. This removes the need for a County Officer to come, inspect and then authorise action. Sandra joined other volunteers for one hour of Zoom training – then a walk around streets with a trainer, complete with fluorescent jackets and spray cans, looking for suitable potholes.

In practice, she said, although there were many potholes, relatively few actually met the strict criteria for this scheme. Potholes have to be quite large – 40mm deep by 150mm across in two directions, or 20mm deep on pavements. Sandra has been eyeing up the cavities along Churchill Road, but A and B roads are not included for the volunteer work, probably for safety reasons. These, and other poor road surface issues, have to be discussed with the Highways officer for separate repair. The Leys, however, did provide a suitable culprit. It was duly marked with white spray paint, a works order was raised, and the pothole should be fixed in 28 days. Sandra added 'If you would like to help, you will need to contact [volunteercoordinationscheme@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:volunteercoordinationscheme@oxfordshire.gov.uk).



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Fluorescent jacket and spray paint will be provided! Hopefully we can work together to improve our roads'.

## British Legion events

**Falklands 40 years**  
Saturday 2 April – Chipping Norton Legion members held a short service to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Falklands War in 1982. The Chairman paid tribute to the 255 UK servicemen killed in the conflict,



noting that in the years that followed, 92 servicemen had taken their own lives and of the 25,000-plus personnel that took part, 22% suffered from PTSD. Tony Tinkham laid a wreath on behalf of the Town. Thanks go to Victor Story for officiating and Richard and Peta Simmons for once again providing the PA.

**Right Royal Quiz** Friday 3 June – to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of the Legion Patron, Her Majesty the Queen, there is to be a quiz in the Crown & Cushion, 7.00 for 7.30pm start, tables up to eight. £5 pp including nibbles. Period dress optional – prizes for the best dressed! Profits to the Poppy Appeal. Book via Carol 07785 770812.

**Town Festival** Sunday 5 June – The Legion will parade round the Town Centre at about 9.30am and have arranged a Spitfire flypast, timings to be confirmed. Live music, fundraising, special Jubilee Pin Badges – all at the Crown & Cushion, including unveiling the Chairman's painting of HMS Magpie, a sloop adopted by the Town in WWII, and commanded by the Duke of Edinburgh during his distinguished naval career.

**1960's Dance** Saturday 16 July – Featuring the Retros, 7.30pm at the Crown & Cushion. Tickets £20 from Carol 07785 770813 or from Topside Pharmacy (see advert p12).

**Steve Kingsford**

## Special award for FarmED

FarmED, the sustainable farming education centre near Shipton under Wychwood, has received special recognition for sustainability in the Civic Trust Awards. It was one of 45 projects selected this year by the Civic Trust whose awards are the longest-standing architectural in the built environment awards in Europe. The award, jointly with architects Timothy Tasker, was for exemplary work in design, material selection, construction methods, long-term energy consumption, et al. The architecture reflects FarmED's mission with sustainable materials, local craftsmanship regeneration and carbon efficiency in the design. Research by the University of Bath helped Timothy Tasker meet neutral carbon targets. All buildings are powered by air source heat pumps and solar energy. Sheep wool was used for roof and wall insulation and special roofing allows maximum heat in winter but deflects the sun in summer. Ian Wilkinson, founder of FarmED, said, 'We are very excited: around every corner, there is something exciting happening; we encourage people to come and visit.'



## Rodents under the bonnet!



The perils of living in rural Chippy! Returning from a few weeks away in the sun, local resident and member of the News Team Charlotte Bird made a startling discovery in her car – and tells a

cautionary tale for others. 'In the olden days some of us veteran drivers were drilled in regularly checking under the bonnet of oil, batteries, water, especially in old bangers with leaky radiators. Fast forward to the modern automobile. Everything is computerised, sealed and too clever by half'. Charlotte's tale continued, 'No-one told the rodents! Mice, rats and squirrels see your engine as fair game – a nice warm place to spend cold winter nights. How do I know this? To my cost sadly. Returning from sunny Cape Verde, the little \*\*\*\* had lined up a nice welcome home present. Despite the car seeing regular use in my absence, a four legged saboteur chewed through the fuel pipe. When I switched on the ignition diesel poured onto the ground. An RAC Knight in Shining Armour diagnosed the problem immediately, also pointing to plastic casing around electric wires that had been snacked upon. His sharp intake of breath led to saying "we are seeing many more examples of this", apparently really costly depending on the extent of the chewing. I later found out that, in extreme cases, vehicles are written off. After two weeks the correct (very expensive) fuel pipe on my trusty Dacia had been sourced and my car was ready to collect. All I needed to do was hand over £550. The moral is to, still, check under your bonnet regularly. You have been warned!!'

## Chippy's birth unit concerns

Concerns are being raised that Chipping Norton's highly valued midwife-led Cotswolds Birth Unit has now been closed to births for seven months – apparently still because of wider staffing issues, mainly at the main JR Hospital Oxford. Midwives at Chippy's unit, as well as the other small midwife-led unit in Wantage, have, for months, been reassigned to Oxford or Banbury. Staffing issues with Covid were mentioned but, like many maternity units across the UK, there have been continued problems recruiting sufficient midwives and other trained staff. In recent years, the consultant-led service at Banbury's Horton Hospital was also 'centralised' to Oxford because of difficulties recruiting obstetrics consultants.



Oxford University Hospitals Trust was asked to update Oxfordshire's Health Scrutiny Committee in March about progress with their waiting list and access issues, and their written report actually said that they 'aimed to reopen' Chippy's unit in March. But a senior manager immediately said that this was 'dependent on staffing' and they could not give a reopening date. The News asked OUH for a statement. They said, 'we aim to re-open these units as soon as we can do so

safely'. They insist that patient safety overall must be their priority and they remain 'disappointed' the situation is still the same. They said the home birth service is still available. Staff at Chippy's unit have found themselves working busy shifts at JR – one staff member indicated to the *Chippy News* that they still have no plans for reopening. They, contrary to the OUH statement, also said that women planning homebirths are 'frequently told there isn't enough staff' and they will need to attend the JR. They added, 'as a team we are becoming increasingly concerned about the situation, and the support of the local community would be much appreciated'. The News has asked OUH for a further statement.

## Finance wizards in Chippy barn

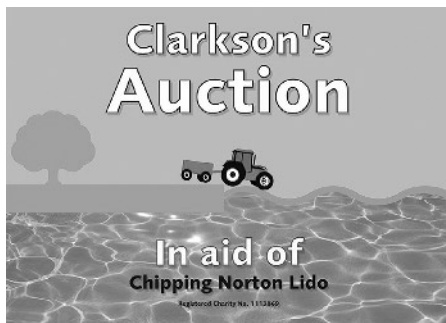


Many people imagine successful financial institutions housed in shiny skyscrapers in Canary Wharf. However, on 12 March, *The Times* ran a double page spread about a very successful home-grown business in Chipping Norton situated in converted Cotswold barns just outside the Town. In 1992, Chippy resident Tony Yarrow founded Wise Investments followed by Wise Funds in 2004. Tony and his artist wife Judith have lived here for many years, brought up their children in Chippy and, among his other recent roles, Tony is Chair of the Lawrence Home Nursing Team. In addition, in 2009 Tony's son Hugh (previously a fund manager at Rathbones) and son-in-law Ben Peters (an ex-physicist) co-founded the Evenlode Income Fund here, which has been one of Britain's best performing income funds over the last five years and now manages £3.28 billion. Since then, the business has also launched the Evenlode Global and Evenlode Global Equity funds.

The companies are employee-owned along the John Lewis model and staffed by enthusiastic local people who enjoy living and working here and avoid the daily, crowded London commute. Two of the fund managers and two of the operations team are ex-Chippy school pupils – a tribute to the School's Maths department. Although they work hard, they have the benefit of the surrounding countryside where they can take occasional stress-busting lunchtime walks. *The Times* reporter commented on the calm atmosphere on a day of high stock market tension (which settled later in the day). He also mentioned the chickens (in fact pheasants) in the car park, the Yarrow's' beekeeping and the use of Ben's Tesla rather than flying for business trips abroad. The media image of fund managers working very stressful long hours in central London, to the detriment of their health and family lives, is challenged by this hard working and very successful fast growing business. Let's hope Chippy's investment groups show a way forward for others.

## Lido's Auction of Promises

The Lido in Chipping Norton is open again for the summer and it's great to see so many enjoying swimming in the lovely, fresh outdoor Chippy air! If you haven't been yet, check out [chippylido.co.uk](http://chippylido.co.uk) for the timetable of swims and other activities, and to book. The big news this month is the Auction of Promises in the Town Hall on Friday 13 May. The Lido's Claire Williamson told the News, 'We are delighted to announce that Jeremy Clarkson has agreed to be our auctioneer once again and we have a brilliant range of lots. We are immensely grateful to him and all our promise donors for making this vital fundraising event possible. Again, please see the website for further information and to book your tickets. We hope to see you there for what will undoubtedly be an entertaining evening'.



## Why not try an allotment?



Have you ever thought of taking over an allotment, especially with the cost of food rapidly rising! Now is the perfect time to start – at the beginning of the growing season. The William Fowler Allotments on Burford Road have vacant plots available to take up immediately! The Trustees have 10 half plots and one full plot available, with currently no waiting list (as of the end of March). Don't worry if you have never done it before – the Committee has also started an Allotment Plot Buddy Scheme to match you with an experienced allotment member who can offer support, advice and encouragement. If you are interested, please contact the Chipping Norton Town Council office [finance@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk](mailto:finance@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk).

## Looking after the allotments

Collectively, all Chipping Norton Town Councillors act as Trustees of the William Fowler Charitable Trust which owns the allotments. The William Fowler Allotment Committee, reporting to the Trustees, manages the day-to-day running of the allotments. Elections were held recently for two places on the William Fowler Allotment Committee and members serve a three-year term of office. Almost 70 votes were cast with Rachel Faulkes (plot 25) and Natascha Cavers (plot 20) elected. They join two other allotment holders Wayne Richmond (plot 34A) and Sarah Holmes (plot 82B), alongside four Councillors and the Mayor. The Committee tries to meet four times a year, twice as a committee and twice to inspect the allotments. It has limited delegated powers, for example the provision of skips to clear allotment waste. It has no financial responsibility but can make recommendations to the Trust. Allotment holders with an inquiry should contact the Guildhall (the Town Council office

provides an administration service to the Trust) in the first instance, who will pass on comments.

## Count those Chippy TV hits!

A new game has struck the News Team: it's all about spotting the number of 'namechecks' that Chipping Norton gets on current TV shows. Regular reader and Chippy resident Paul Burbidge started it by sending in a screen shot from the final episode of Adam Kay's medical doctor autobiographic drama *This is going to hurt*. Adam and his friend are heard discussing wedding donations to 'Chipping Norton Donkey Sanctuary'! (No, don't spend any of your valuable time looking for the non-existent animal refuge.)



But then other News Team members chipped in. Stephen Merchant is particularly fond of giving it a mention including referring to 'living just outside Chipping Norton' in a recent show. He also mentioned it in his crime series *The Outlaws*. A recent *Witchfinder General* clip has someone listing lots of towns beginning with 'Ch' including Chipping Norton. And *This Country*, the mockumentary set in the Cotswolds, had an episode entirely shot at Kingham Station! Any more?

## Parking charges for Chippy?

For years, West Oxfordshire District Council has championed district-wide free parking for its car parks. Other Oxfordshire districts charge for parking. Good news for parkers? Maybe so far, but visitor numbers and town centre users for our small towns such as Woodstock and Chipping Norton have significantly increased. Parking at busy times has never been more difficult and neither WODC nor the County Council have invested in any more parking space. In a new move, from 2023 Oxfordshire County Council (not WODC) is likely to take over all the 'on-street' parking control which will include the main Market Square in Chipping Norton. At the same time, in Woodstock, after discussions with their Town Council Traffic Advisory Committee and local groups, a consultation is now starting to look at introducing on-street pay and display and residents' permits. All this is partly responding to the parking chaos in Woodstock and aims to make parking fairer and shared around with more town centre users. Could this be something worth considering in Chippy or do we have more than enough parking space? WODC's two car parks would remain free (at New St and Albion St) but the other ideas could be looked at. OCC's Cabinet Member responsible, Tim Bearder, says this is, for the moment, only about Woodstock. But unless there are other parking solutions in Chipping Norton, this could be a glimpse of Chippy's future as well. What do readers, parkers and town centre users think?



## Time Team at Broughton

The long-awaited *Time Team* episode – showing their dig at the hidden Roman Villa near Broughton – was finally on screen on YouTube in April. *Time Team*, which as a flagship Channel 4 show had millions of followers, is now ‘fan-funded’ and the Broughton dig was done last September to explore the 1500–1700 year old Roman site. For more information, see [patreon.com/TimeTeamOfficial](https://patreon.com/TimeTeamOfficial) and new episodes on [youtube.com/TimeTeamOfficial](https://youtube.com/TimeTeamOfficial).

## Mapping Chippy workshop

Sunday 3 April saw the Town Hall host around 50 local people inspired to attend a fun event organised by The Chippy



Exchange – all to explore what it is about Chippy that is important to local people and how they feel it could be improved. A variety of conversations and creative activities took place over the afternoon, led by Jenn Kidd of Seedbed Theatre and Ruth Shaw-Williams and Alex Brooks of The Human Restoration Project. The event was the brainchild of Mayor Georgia Mazower, who encouraged the organisers to seek Section 106 funding to work with a range of people from the Town over several weeks.



Alex told the News, ‘We wanted to collect ideas on what really matters for people in Chippy. We invited people to map the Town – to tell us what they dreamed and hoped for Chipping Norton. Hundreds of mapping packs were passed to people, some posted, some through partner organisations. We tried to reach as many, especially young, people as possible – so we got creative in our approaches. We worked with artist Carol Harvey, who runs an art club at CN School; with The Theatre, supporting their half-term school lunch initiative where we chatted with families; at the ACE centre talking with pre-schoolers about place and identity; with pupils at St Mary’s School to create a song about what they wanted for

Chippy; and with adults with learning disabilities at the Albion Centre. One sunny day, with Rizvana Poole and MOR Bakery we turned the outside of the Guildhall into a living room and invited patrons of Chippy Larder for a cuppa and piece of cake!’ What The Chippy Exchange found out will be collated and made available for everyone to see. In the interim they will be posting on their Instagram page and can be contacted at [thechippyexchange@gmail.com](mailto:thechippyexchange@gmail.com)

## Cróna’s Candles make scents!

A new venture, Cróna’s Candles, has started as a pop in shop at Hugo’s at 9 Horsefair, Chipping Norton. Founded by Cróna Halligan, this bespoke aromatherapy practice includes a candle, body oil and spray company. The seeds were sown back in 2018, when Cróna realised she had a talent for recognising particular scents. When lockdown hit, the Chippy resident (she moved to the Town in 2015) decided



to retrain as an Aromatherapist with the Aromahead Institute and is now qualified in Aromatherapy with the International Federation of Professional Aromatherapists (IFPA). Cróna makes therapeutic candles, body oils and sprays for your home by hand, blending all-natural organic botanical oils to create gorgeous scents, from calming and soothing to uplifting and energising.

As well as her signature blends such as eucalyptus, lavender or citrus fruits, Cróna can custom-make a scent for you, whether for a birthday gift, your wedding day or a new mum. ‘I adore aromas and the soothing effect they can have,’ she told the *Chippy News*. ‘The sprays can be used as pillow mists or as linen sprays – great to take with you on holiday to make somewhere smell like home.’ Prices start from £20 for a medium-sized candle. She sells juices, coffees and much more as she develops the space. Cróna invites you to come and say hello at Hugo’s, where she took up residence as a new shop in town on Friday 22 April, or find out more on her instagram account [@cronascandles](https://www.instagram.com/cronascandles) or her website [cronascandles.com](https://www.cronascandles.com).

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## Friday's Remix Youth Club

In school years 7–11? Why not try Remix, the Friday after-school Youth Club – now going for 6 years – up at Chipping Norton's Glyme Hall? Remix provides a space where young people can meet, away from home and school pressures, and feel



relaxed, safe and valued. The Hall has comfy chairs, a sports hall, kitchen and outdoor space, and you can enjoy football, crafts, music, Xbox, nail-painting, table tennis and pool, all facilitated by full-time youth worker Joel Reed, and the team of volunteers, many from St. Mary's Church. Joel said, 'It's great to see young people stream in after the end of school and get involved in the activities, or just enjoy chatting together at the start of the weekend. Some come every week, making Remix their Friday 'home'. Others drop in now and again, to meet friends, or for a particular activity. The popular tuck shop is stocked with snacks, drinks and sweets, and milkshakes – with free toast always demolished at an astonishing rate!'

Remix also hosts fantastic sessions including dance, graffiti, climbing wall, gaming van, and dressmaking. They currently have the brilliant 'Community Albums' providing expertise and professional equipment for young people to create their own music tracks. There are plans for Chippy Theatre to join for some sessions and for club members to use food provided to design their own snacks. Joel says that, six years on, it seems even more important to have a place for young people to meet face-to-face – different from the online world! It offers a secure and familiar place to find support from friends and trusted adults where needed, or to just kick back after a busy week, with a group of friends and a milkshake. Remix is for anyone in school years 7–11, every Friday during term times, 3.15pm–4.45pm. Enquire at [youth@stmaryscnorton.com](mailto:youth@stmaryscnorton.com).

## Join Chippy Fire Station crew



*Chippy Firefighters were named Fundraisers of the Year*

The crew at Chipping Norton Fire Station have been busy recently trying to recruit new firefighters. In March they held a *Have a Go Day* at the Chippy station, attended by around twenty people interested in joining teams at Chipping Norton, Charlbury and Hook Norton. If you or anyone you know might be interested in joining, please contact Station Manager Gary Crone on 07775 827281 or [gary.crone@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:gary.crone@oxfordshire.gov.uk). Then in April, station representatives attended a ceremony at Blenheim Place where they collected Fundraisers of the Year award, given to

the station or persons that raise the most amount for charity. Chippy's efforts included their successful car wash last August which raised £2860 that was split between the Firefighters Charity and Banbury's Horton Hospital. By the time you read this, they will have held another car wash event to raise money for the Firefighters Charity and the humanitarian appeal to help the people of Ukraine. To find out more about what the station gets up to and events that will be happening throughout the year, please look at their Facebook Page.

**David Cuthbert**

## Support for animals in Ukraine



*Chippy Veterinary Hospital was a collection point for donations*

Many readers will remember Pen Farthing, the ex-Royal Marine and founder of Nowzad, an animal welfare charity in Kabul, from the headlines he made last summer. Pen publicly battled to save his staff, their families, and the animals they'd rescued from the

Taliban during the West's evacuation from Afghanistan. Fast forward six months and Pen and the Nowzad team have turned their attention to the Ukraine. With war raging, shelters and rescue centres are struggling to cope. Nowzad has stepped in to help people care for their animals by providing emergency provisions such as food and travel crates as well as veterinary supplies direct to those organisations.

Pen and the team at Nowzad are so grateful that Katie Whalley and the team at Chipping Norton Veterinary Hospital have helped by acting as a collection point for all local donations. Peter Kettlewell, vet and co-director, says, 'We are extremely pleased to be able to support our colleagues in Ukraine by being a drop-off point for essential items to help the animals caught up in the crisis. These vital supplies will go to shelters where vets and nurses are working round the clock, in extremely difficult circumstances providing medical care for animals during these worrying times'. Thanks to everyone's generosity, Nowzad has been inundated with physical donations and is now focused on distributing what it's collected but you can still donate money. To find out more about Nowzad and its work in Ukraine, please visit its website [www.nowzad.com/news/article/nowzads-support-for-ukraine](http://www.nowzad.com/news/article/nowzads-support-for-ukraine).

**Francine Heywood**

## Buses to Oxford hospitals

Many Chippy residents going to Oxford's hospitals use the Oxford Parkway P&R and from there take the 700 bus direct. From 9 May there are some changes – The 700 will no longer serve the stops by the Churchill Hospital entrance, but drop off and pick up on Roosevelt Drive. Similarly for the Nuffield Orthopaedic you will have to get off on Windmill Drive. The 700 is being combined with the existing 800 and 900 and will now serve Thornhill P&R as well as Parkway. See timetable on Stagecoach website.

## Spelsbury marmalade marvels

Hidden away along the quiet Church Lane in Spelsbury, you will come across a stall at the field gate of Helen and Hugh Datson's two-acre 'micro-farm'. It's worth a trip as here you will find not only the Cotswolds smallest farm shop, Church Lane Produce, but also pots of delicious, award-winning world-beating marmalade! The shop found success recently winning a silver award at the Artisan Marmalade Awards, where their Seville Orange and Lemon marmalade impressed the judges with its appearance, colour, consistency, aroma and flavour.



*Helen at her farm shop*

This year the Marmalade Awards received a record-breaking number of entries, with over 3000 jars from more than 30 countries worldwide including Japan, Canada, Australia, Czech Republic, USA and Lebanon. The Artisan jars are judged by an expert panel including food writer Dan Lepard, Fortnum & Mason Grocery Buyer Sarah Metcalf, and David Atherton food writer and winner of The Great British Bake Off 2019, and the accolade that has been awarded denotes a marmalade of exceptional quality. Hugh and Helen were delighted to have won against such strong global competition, saying 'We have been making our marmalade for five years and have always thought that it is some of the best marmalade we've ever tasted; it's fabulous to have the Award to prove it!'. The Spelsbury shop – at OX7 3JR – is open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9–6 and Saturday. See [www.churchlaneproduce.co.uk](http://www.churchlaneproduce.co.uk).

## Hooky beer for Ukraine



Our local Hook Norton Brewery has become involved in the #DrinkersForUkraine campaign to help raise funds for the Red Cross humanitarian relief efforts. Breweries around the world have been asked to brew a special beer developed by Ukrainian brewers. Hooky have brewed their version of the solidarity brew – RESIST Anti Imperial Stout 6%, infused with Beetroot; a first for them! The required amount of locally supplied beetroot, cooked and ready, was received after a Facebook request. The brew is available in selected Hook Norton pubs with money raised going directly to the Red Cross Disasters Emergency Committee. The 6% stout is very dark, with a brown head tinged with pinkness, and aromas of vanilla, chocolate and caramel.

Hooky Brewery is also celebrating another year of beer and brewing with the first release of its 173 Anniversary Ales range – 173 Strong Ale. At 7.3% proof, it's a strong, robust dark red beer, fruity, full bodied with a hint of spice. It combines a robust trio of all English hops, delicate and smooth Goldings, spicy Challenger and floral Fuggles. 173

Strong Ale is available exclusively from the brewery shop in 500ml bottles and online at [www.hooky.co.uk/shop](http://www.hooky.co.uk/shop). There will also be 173 Gold, 173 Coffee Stout and 173 Lager.

## Finally! New St's EV chargers

After more delays, April finally saw the arrival of 12 new electric vehicle (EV) charging points, for residents and public, in Chipping Norton's New Street Car Park. The main use is expected from visitors and town residents who can't install a



*The new EV charging points being installed in the New Street Car park in mid April*

charger at their home. EV drivers can access the new 'Park and Charge' hub using contactless payment at 'competitive rates' but regular customers can join a membership and booking system for a small monthly fee. The chargers will be 'fast' chargers, between 7–22kw. Tariffs should be between 25–35p per kWh, cheaper overnight. The 12 parking bays are painted green as 'EV charging only'. WODC parking wardens

"Thank You for 70 years of Service" "Let's Celebrate Our Queen's Platinum Jubilee!"

**GIFTS FOR HOME, GARDEN & CUTIES**

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# LOCAL NEWS

will service penalty notices to any non-charging vehicles parking there. As a long-term car park, residents can leave cars charging overnight and collect them in the morning. For latest updates, visit [parkandchargeoxfordshire.co.uk](http://parkandchargeoxfordshire.co.uk) or follow 'Park and Charge Oxfordshire' on social media.

## Restoring The 4 Shire Stone

The Four Shire Stone, on the A44 south of Moreton in Marsh, marked the ancient boundary between the four counties of Gloucestershire, Warwickshire, Oxfordshire and Worcestershire until reorganisation of county boundaries in 1931 when several Worcestershire parishes were absorbed into Gloucestershire.

The 15ft high pillar of Cotswold stone is thought to date from the late 17<sup>th</sup> Century, although mystery surrounds its exact origins. It has a colourful history and was a well-known meeting point and a venue for prize fights. JRR Tolkien was a frequent visitor to this area and it is said that this waymarker caught his imagination. Fans of *The Hobbit* and *Lord of the Rings* will know of the Three Farthing Stone of the Shire. But the



Stone has not always been well cared for and even had to be rebuilt when a lorry demolished it in 1955.



James Hayman-Joyce, from Barton on the Heath, was saddened by its demise. He says, 'I passed the Stone on my way into work for 35 years and became increasingly concerned at its poor state of repair. So I resolved to do something about

it and formed the Four Shire Stone Restoration Committee with the aim of raising £20,000 to restore the Stone to its former glory'. The project involves restoring and repairing the stonework, replacing the railings and enhancing the engravings on all four sides of the pillar. Mr Hayman-Joyce added, 'We have the permissions we need to complete the work and we hope that the Four Shire Stone will be standing tall and gleaming once again by the end of the year. But we also realise that these are difficult and troubled times and the situation in Ukraine is an important pull on all our resources so any contribution to this project would be so gratefully received'. For details of how to donate and more information about the Four Shire Stone, see [www.fourshirestone.org.uk](http://www.fourshirestone.org.uk).

## Craft & Cake workshops

Would you like to join in for a fun afternoon of craft and cake in Chipping Norton? No previous skills are needed and you can enjoy a creative rest from your busy week. Play, experiment and have fun with fabric, paper, paint, stitching and printing – not forgetting glue of course! Each workshop will be different but with the idea of relaxing, companionship and creating

something such as cards and gift tags, collaged pictures, decoupage, fabric buckets, or decorated flowerpots. All this creativity will be helped with endless tea, coffee and cake. If you are interested or want to find out more, contact Karen on 07919 123046. See [Chippycraftandcakes](https://www.instagram.com/Chippycraftandcakes) on Instagram.

Karen Biles & Judith Hulme

## Methodist Church update



Pictured for the News this month are Roman and Gregory enjoying pancakes at a recent Junior Church session. Elaine Parsons reports that the Church are now starting to plan for their summer celebration

service on 3 July, when the theme is going to be 'Give thanks' and especially for the Junior Church; everyone is welcome to come and join in. As part of this they are asking anyone who has photos of JC activities from over the years if they will send them to either Elaine at [snips59@icloud.com](mailto:snips59@icloud.com) or Martin at [martinhannant27@gmail.com](mailto:martinhannant27@gmail.com) so they can put together a montage of the 50+ years of Junior Church.

Please also call in at the Spring Sale for Church funds on Saturday 14 May – 10.30–noon in the Methodist Hall. Other dates: Wednesday 4 May, cuppa and chat for Christian Aid,

The Royal British Legion CN

PRESENTS

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1960's Dance

at

THE CROWN & CUSHION HOTEL

Saturday 16th July

Doors Open 7.30 pm

TICKETS £20 in advance  
from: Carol Tel 07785770813  
or Topside Pharmacy

( Proceeds to The Poppy Appeal )

# LOCAL NEWS

9.30–11.30, Methodist Hall; Monday 9 May, crafty cuppa and chat 10–12, Methodist Hall (please note change of date).

## There's a buzz about town !

Chipping Norton's 24 High Street is the new home of textiles and lifestyle emporium, Beehive – a colourful mix of contemporary home furnishings, gifts and handmade and local crafts. Founder Alison Driver, who lives in Hook Norton, originally a textile designer and with a background in retail,



*Alison offers 'something creative & a bit different'*

has always had a passion for colour, pattern and fabrics. Her new shop opened in March. 'The reaction so far has been wonderful,' she says. 'The people of Chipping Norton have been so welcoming and excited to pop in and see what we have got to offer. I believe in the High Street, and I think the community is happy to find a new store offering something creative and a bit different. It's something for the senses – I hope it makes your soul fly as you walk in!' The name 'Beehive' symbolises collective personal industry, and the business aims to bring global and local products together. Best-selling products include block-printed fabrics and stitched kantha throws from India, as well as hand-made local pottery and cushions. Beehive, which is online as well ([beehivehome.co.uk](http://beehivehome.co.uk)), also stocks scented candles and stationery. Beehive aims to hand-pick suppliers with ethical values and supports fair-trade companies where possible. They also hope to bring some community-led craft-based projects and workshops to the space in the future. 'I am trying to include as many of our talented local makers as possible,' says Alison. 'It feels good to buy quality products which have been made with thought and care, and it contributes to our community.'

## Churchill's Community Café



Churchill and Sarsden Community Café is the place to visit for fresh filter coffee, a range of quality teas and an excellent choice of homemade cakes – all at very reasonable prices. You can combine your visit with a stroll around the pretty village green. For those liking a longer walk you might try a circular village route or access the D'Arcy Dalton Way. The children's playground is also nearby. It

is newly refurbished and within easy reach of the Café at the Village Hall – making this café a great destination. Community Café is open on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12 noon. Closed for Easter, it reopens for the Summer on Tuesday

10 May. Make a note for your diary – Churchill and Sarsden Village Hall Committee warmly welcome you!

**Hazel Hughes**

## Rollright Trust's 25 years

A relatively mild winter has given the Rollright Trust's team time to carry out work at the Stones site – including on much neglected copses. In March local arborists Canopy Trees carried out lopping, felling and pruning of dangerous, diseased, dying and dead trees in the east and west copses. Bat boxes and bird boxes have been installed – hopefully with wildlife taking up residence very soon. Work to improve paths and clear ground ivy continues. Events this year include a beacon for the Queen's Jubilee (2 June), The Theatre presenting on site *Arbor the Tree* – an 18-foot puppet show (Saturday 16 July), a family open day on August Bank Holiday and an October event at The Theatre celebrating 25 years of guardianship of these fascinating monuments. The Rollright Stones are one of the most popular and increasingly visited ancient monument sites in the country. Wardens are back at weekends, Bank Holidays and events – and if you have time to volunteer, and like meeting the public, please contact [robin@cnaag.com](mailto:robin@cnaag.com).



*Outdoor events at the Rollright Stones last summer*

**Robin Smitten – Trustee and Site Manager**

## Having problems with sleep?

You don't have to live with poor sleep. As a specialist sleep psychotherapist, I utilise several tools to address your issues with sleep, including CBTi (Cognitive behavioural therapy for Insomnia), which is the primary NICE approved treatment.



**HEATHER DARWALL-SMITH  
PSYCHOTHERAPIST  
MA. UKCP ACCRED.**

As well as offering one to one sessions privately online and at the Ashcroft Therapy Centre in Deddington, Heather is a sleep psychotherapy consultant at The London Sleep Centre on Harley Street in London.



**Get in touch today**

Call: 07780 605822

or email at: [hdarwallsmith@gmail.com](mailto:hdarwallsmith@gmail.com)

For more information visit

[www.heatherdarwallsmith.com](http://www.heatherdarwallsmith.com)

## Library's Local History Month

Chipping Norton Library is spreading the word that May is Local Community and History Month – and it's a good time to see their extensive collection of local history books. The County Libraries' online resources include Newspaper Archives, British Library



Image courtesy of picture.oxon.com

Newspapers, Oxfordshire History Centre resources, Ancestry & Find My Past and the OverDrive eBook special collection, 'Close to Home'. You can enjoy thousands of images of Oxfordshire past and present at Picture Oxon, including the work of Frank and Basil Packer from 1910 to the 1970s. Picture Oxon is an online database containing photographs of Oxford, Oxfordshire and neighbouring counties from the 1850s to the present. One of the favourite images (above) is of the Queen walking in a November parade with the Chancellor of Oxford University, Rt Hon Harold MacMillan, following a welcome convocation at the Sheldonian Theatre, 4 November 1960. It also features prints and drawings from the 1700s to 1900.

**Sally Moore** – Library Manager

## Healthwatch's Chippy survey

Late last year, Healthwatch Oxfordshire – who champion us as NHS patients – conducted a survey on what life is like in Chipping Norton and the ease of accessing health facilities and essential services such as public transport. A total of 204 people took part via online and paper questionnaires – the majority were female, and ages ranged between 25 to 65+. Questions ranged from how long you've lived here to positive features alongside drawbacks. Their report 'Living in Chipping Norton' reveals few great surprises – the ease of accessing glorious countryside, the range of supermarkets and choice of leisure facilities were all mentioned. Outstanding features of Chippy life included the sense of community (strengthened and extended during lockdowns), the role of the Topside Pharmacy and the Chipping Norton News! Downsides include the volume of traffic through town, lack of public transport, and few facilities for teenagers and elderly. As is common in towns with many over 65s, there was criticism of much information only being accessible via computer.

On health services, 90% said they were registered with a dentist and most visit one close to home. The majority found it relatively easy to get dental appointments and are happy with care received. Clinics now run at the Chippy Community Hospital's Outpatient Unit were praised for helping avoid the stress of travelling to, and parking at, the larger hospitals. The siting of Chipping Norton Health Centre (for GP services) on the outskirts of Town drew a mixed response. Although there is a shuttle bus service, which incorporates an hourly stop at the health centre, difficulty in accessing the Centre, particular for those coming to the proposed additional new homes, is a

## Willow Gardens – Now Fully Open

Our brand-new Extra Care scheme in Chipping Norton offers a selection of two-bedroom apartments with access to modern communal areas, exclusively for over 55s\*. Our fantastic facilities are now open, why not come for a look around?

### Why choose Willow Gardens...

- Ideal for those thinking about downsizing
- On-site café/bistro, hair salon and communal lounge
- Live in an energy efficient property
- Extra Care service provides 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 up to 75% on shared ownership, core charges and service charges apply.

Guide price:  
25% shared  
ownership from  
£64,375\*\* for a  
two-bedroom  
apartment.

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



Typical Housing 21 apartment

## LOCAL NEWS

concern. Healthwatch's report summary suggests that local people should be more involved in policy and decision making. So, if you have any practical suggestions how this can be achieved why not tell Healthwatch? – see [www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk)

### Penguin opens in Middle Row



Laura pictured recently in her new venture: Penguin Hair & Beauty

Eagle-eyed shoppers will have noticed a new sign high up above the windows in Middle Row – Penguin Hair and Beauty. The newly-opened salon promises a calming atmosphere, a place for 'me time', all themed around owner Laura's favourite gold and pink colours, and her favourite animal, a penguin. 'I love penguins! Even the tables at our wedding were named after different breeds of penguin. So it felt very "me" as a name,' she explains. The salon opened on 21 March, something of a whim for Laura. She says: 'Nails and beauty have always interested me, but I didn't train until my daughter was born, six and a half years ago. I worked around my children and from home, originally calling my business the Nail Lodge, as I worked from a lodge in my garden. When I saw the salon was available, it felt like a "now or never" moment!' She hopes the all-round offering from Penguin will be a big draw for customers. Treatments range from nails and waxing to hair, massage and lashes. 'You can go between therapists and have everything done, while chilling out and having a drink,' says Laura. 'This is about "your time".' To book or find out more go to [www.facebook.com/Penguinhb/](http://www.facebook.com/Penguinhb/)

## Surinderpal Singh, LL.M TEP Solicitor

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[amrittrust@iamlaw.co.uk](mailto:amrittrust@iamlaw.co.uk)

### Lawrence Team news



**Dr Lawrence's inspiration** – One of Chippy's local GPs reminds us of the Lawrence Home Nursing Team's service to our community. The Health Centre's Wendy Hall (pictured) said, 'In 1997 I joined West Street Surgery to complete my training as a GP, and I was fortunate to have Dr Martin Lawrence as one of my supervisors. I

was in awe of his clinical and academic brilliance, and it was daunting to look after his devoted patients when he became ill. I remain in awe of his inspiring vision to create an end-of-life nursing service for the community he served. General Practice provides care from cradle to grave, trying to support our community through life's challenges. We are so fortunate to have the Lawrence Team, combining high standards of nursing excellence with care and compassion for patients and their loved ones. If I ask for help, they do everything to enable my patient to die in their own home. As a GP it is a privilege to walk alongside my patients as they approach the end of life and to facilitate a peaceful death surrounded by care. Thank you to the Lawrence Team for being there for patients and their GPs since 1999'.



**Meet The Performers** – Tickets are now on sale for *A Summer's Evening of Opera* on Friday 17 June. £30 per adult including welcome drink. Children under 16 go free. Thanks to the sponsors, Wise Funds and Zurich Community Funds. Tel: 684477 for ticket information.

**Join the Team** – The Lawrence Home Nursing Team are seeking a Healthcare Assistant, or equivalent, to fulfil the role of Clinical Support Worker within our dynamic and dedicated team. The post involves 20 hours across four to five weekdays. The closing date for applications is 31 May. Interviews are set for 7 & 8 June. For information see [lawrencehomenursing.org](http://lawrencehomenursing.org) and contact Sam Dullely on 01608 641549 option 2.

Verity Fifer

### Hooky Shire Horse winners

Hook Norton Brewery returned triumphant from the National Shire Show, the world's largest gathering of Shire horses held at Newark Showground on 19–20 March.

Competing for the first time in their 173-year history, the Brewery entered Brigadier, bringing home a respectable 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the 3-year-old gelding class, before parading in the Newcomer class and securing 1<sup>st</sup> place receiving the Barbara Meddings Memorial Perpetual Trophy. The Shire

# LOCAL NEWS

Horse breed is on the 'at risk' register compiled by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, with fewer than 300 pedigree Shire



*Three-year-old gelding, Brigadier with his rosettes at the National Shire Show in March*

Horse foals born in the UK every year. The annual show is the flagship event for the Shire Horse Society attracting around 250 pedigree Shire Horses from across Europe – the charity that works to protect and promote the breed. Hook Norton Brewery has recently achieved the 'Shire Horse Society Approved Centre' status. Nicholas Carter, Head Coachman, commented: 'It's been a fantastic start to the show season for us, putting Hooky well and truly on the map. We look forward to working with the Society throughout the year and continuing to raise the profile of these fantastic animals'. To keep up with the Brewery's two resident Shire Horses, visit Facebook 'Hooky Brewery Heavy Horses' @hnbheavyhorse.



**OLIVERI**  
**BARBER'S SHOP**

EST. 1961

Opening hours:  
Monday: 8.30am–5pm  
Tuesday: 8.30am–5pm  
Wednesday: 8.30am–7pm  
Thursday: CLOSED  
Friday: 8.30am–5.30pm  
Saturday: 7.30am–1pm  
Sunday: CLOSED

01608 642532  
4 Market Street  
Chipping Norton

## Come for Tea and Connect!

Offering a warm welcome to anyone in Chipping Norton who wants to enjoy a friendly chat and company – is the aim of two groups that are now meeting at St Mary's Parish Rooms. Come for Tea has started again, meeting regularly on the second Friday in the month from 1.45–3.15pm. For the first meeting, everyone was just pleased to be able to get together again over tea and an indulgent slice of cake – while planned for the future are activities around the groups'



*Come For Tea in St Mary's Parish Rooms*

mutual interests. Connect is proving a popular venue for all ages as a drop-in. Anyone is welcome, including children with carers, as a safe space for all. The craft table is proving a source of entertainment to try a variety of activities. One recent week it was decoupage. Board games also provide the chance to join in and get to know others. Some folk just enjoy sitting with a drink and reading the paper. It's a place to relax in company but no pressure to do anything! Connect in term time every Tuesday afternoon from 1–3pm. You're welcome to just turn up. St Mary's Church is also keen to encourage anyone who would like to consider questions of life and faith from a Christian perspective to do so in a friendly and relaxed environment. A daytime Alpha Course is also starting on Monday 13 June. For more information on this and all the groups, please contact [office@stmaryscnorton.com](mailto:office@stmaryscnorton.com) or alternatively call the Church Office on 01608 646202.

**Hannah Charles**

## Chippy bakes for Ukraine

Chipping Norton held a local Bake for Ukraine sale, in aid of the British Red Cross Ukrainian Appeal, raising over £180 in under an hour and a half on Saturday 2 April. Sponges, biscuits and other goodies were selling like those proverbial hot cakes, including tarts, curly-wurly brownies as well as Ukrainian delights



such as mantulky biscuits and honey babka with sour cherries. Yum! The stall in Middle Row was organised by Claire Jarvis of Fibreworks and there are plans to make this a regular Saturday event, starting on 23 April. Get there early to avoid disappointment!



## John Grantham 1937-2022 Chipping Norton Honorary Citizen

**The News compiled this tribute to John Grantham who died in March. A Thanksgiving service on 31 March at St Mary's Church, led by Revd James Kennedy, was followed by a Town Hall reception.**

**A Chipping Norton man** – John was born in Chipping Norton War Memorial Hospital in 1937, grew up in Diston's Lane, went to the Grammar School and started work at G T Smith in the High Street – repairing all kinds of household items. In 1956 he did three years National Service in the RAF, including a posting to Hong Kong, as a radio operator. Returning to Chippy, he met and married local girl Marilyn Hill, bringing up two children. Attracted by a wage of £11 3s 4d, in 1962 John joined the new Parker Knoll factory – starting proudly 'on the bench' as a moulder, then training at night school and progressing through all departments to become a Member of the Institute of Industrial Managers, and Operations Director in charge of 500 people until retirement in 1997. Parker



Knoll's then Managing Director, Martin Jordan, called him, 'a quite exceptional man, a leader of men – a great boss and colleague who never lost sight that it is people that make things happen.'

poem condemning the enclosures taking land from the common people, which begins:  
*The Law locks up the man or woman who steals the goose from off the Common, but leaves the greater villain loose who steals the Common from the goose.*

Paul called John 'a man of dedication and integrity, with an extensive knowledge of Chippy – his passing has left an unfillable hole'. John Grantham wrote two detailed and meticulous history books on The Regulated Pasture and the Town Hall. John was in great demand – from primary schools to Probus clubs – for talks on

Chippy's history and even light-hearted accounts of life in Diston's Lane.



*John Grantham and Terry Cox working at Parker Knoll*

**Dedicated Council service** – John's civic life started with election to the old Chipping Norton Borough Council in 1972 – in the days, as John stressed, when Chippy ran its own affairs. He stayed on what became the Town Council until 1983, then again from 1994 to 2008, serving as Mayor in 1976 and 1977. Memorably for the Chippy News, he chaired a Town Hall meeting to launch the community's volunteer newspaper. He served on West Oxfordshire District Council 1974-1977 and 1996-2000. Former Mayor and friend Pat Lake, in a memorable tribute at the Thanksgiving Service, remembered a 'passionate, principled man' and a hard act to follow; 'like someone trying to follow Sir Alex Ferguson at Manchester United.' Pat mentioned his starting the New Street Recreation Ground and finding financial support for Highlands Day Centre – also noting how John, a Labour and Co-operative Councillor, always put party politics aside to reach decisions good for the Town. Current Labour Chairman Steve Akers remembers John greeting everyone warmly, always 'on the steps' on polling day but not necessarily with a Labour rosette! Former Chippy Tory County Councillor and friend, Hilary Biles, read his Thanksgiving lesson.

**Preserving Chippy's heritage** – John's pride in the Town led to 45 years' involvement with the Field Reeves to look after the Regulated Pasture, common land granted to the townspeople over 800 years ago. He became a Trustee, then Chair from 1997 until his death. Fellow Trustee and friend Paul Burbidge paid tribute at John's Thanksgiving, to the delight of Labour's Steve Akers, by reading the 17<sup>th</sup> century

**A life's service to the Town** – John's deep involvement in the Town included being Chairman of Chipping Norton and District Fire Brigade Charity, President of the Hospital League of Friends and a driving force on the Hospital Action Group, whose secretary Clive Hill praised his great campaigning persistence. John's love of the local countryside included leading 'Footsteps', a popular healthy walking group, for 15 years before passing it into Peta Simmons' capable hands.

In 2012, John's work, dedication and life were recognized by the Town Council and the then Mayor, Chris Butterworth is pictured here, presenting him with Honorary Citizenship – the



Town's fourth after John Hannis and Bruce & Sheila Parker. Cllr Butterworth, at this March's Town Council meeting, praised his talents as Councillor, historian, author and the 'most knowledgeable man of all Chippy information' adding 'Chippy was at the heart of John and John was at the heart of Chippy'.

Sadly, in 1985 John lost his wife Marilyn. A chance meeting later, at a Mayor's Ball, with Celia, a former childhood friend and dancing partner, led to their subsequent marriage – sharing a love of walking and the countryside. In retirement John and Celia lived 20 years in Salford, enjoying gardening, travel and walking. They recently moved back to a Penhurst Gardens apartment with a wonderful view overlooking his beloved Common Land. John leaves behind Celia, his children Andrew and Joanne, grandchildren Luke, Daniel, Sian and Lauren, great granddaughter Lexie, and extended family. They thank all friends and townsfolk of Chipping Norton, who knew and loved John, for their kind words and support.

*Thanks to Celia Grantham, Paul Burbidge, Martin Jordan, Pat Lake, Chris Butterworth, Steve Akers – and to John for his own eulogy.*



**Andrea Bates**  
andreabates.co.uk



**Rosemary Atkins**  
rosemaryatkins.co.uk

Oxfordshire Artweeks are celebrating their 40th anniversary year across the county in May: **7-15 May** studios open across Oxford; **14-22 May** you can explore locations in South Oxfordshire, and from **21-29 May** venues in North & West Oxfordshire welcome you in.



**Motoko Aritake-Wild**  
forgeatwychwood.co.uk



**Angela Everett**  
angelaeverett@btinternet.com

# Artweeks IN CHIPPING NORTON

Highlighted here are a few examples of the artists' amazing paintings, photography, textiles, sculpture and ceramics, woodworking, glass art, mosaics and jewellery on display in **Chipping Norton and surrounding areas 21-29 May**. Check opening times and full details in brochure available at libraries and other local information points, or at [artweeks.org](http://artweeks.org). If you are unable to get to any venue for real, or simply appreciate seeing art from home, you can enjoy hundreds of artist portfolios and virtual studios/exhibitions in the Art Showcase at [artweeks.org/showcase](http://artweeks.org/showcase).



**David Blakemore**  
davidblakemore@hotmail.co.uk



**Jill Colchester**  
jillcolchester.com



**Valma Benfield**  
ev.benfield@phonecoop.coop

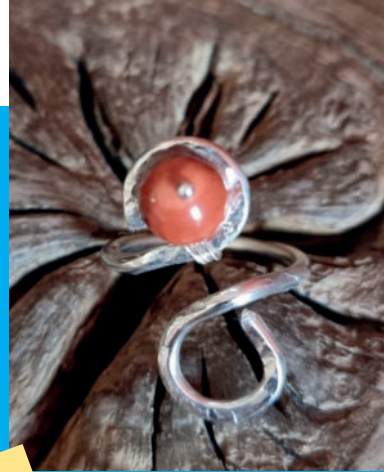


**Carol Harvey**  
[carolharvey.artitude@gmail.com](mailto:carolharvey.artitude@gmail.com)

**Matthew Kopinski**  
[matthewwordsmith.com](http://matthewwordsmith.com)



**Janet Wilkinson**  
[janet@janwilkinson.com](mailto:janet@janwilkinson.com)



**Jackie Stapleton**  
[jackiestapleton@btinternet.com](mailto:jackiestapleton@btinternet.com)



**Penelope Fulljames**  
[penelopefulljames.com](http://penelopefulljames.com)



**Jane Abbott**  
[janeabbott099@gmail.com](mailto:janeabbott099@gmail.com)



**Martin Sanders**  
[yewturn@gmail.com](mailto:yewturn@gmail.com)

**Rollright Rebels**

Great Rollright Village Hall  
High Street, Great Rollright  
OX7 5RH

Tel: 01608 730268

Artform: Ceramics, Drawing,  
Glass, Jewellery, Mixed Media,  
Painting, Paper, Textiles.

Times: 11:00-17:00  
(Sat/Sun 11:00-18:00)

**FarmED**

Station Road, Shipton-under-  
Wychwood, Chipping Norton  
OX7 6BJ

Tel: 07885 103915

Artform: Multidisciplinary

Times: 10:00-16:00  
(May 21/22/26/27/28/29)



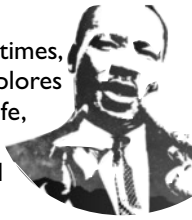
**Judith Yarrow**  
[forgeatwychwood.co.uk](http://forgeatwychwood.co.uk)

# THE ARTS

## The Theatre

### Live performances

**The Mountain Top.** 4-14 May, various times, (14+) Katori Hall's award-winning play explores the last hours of Martin Luther King Jr's life, revealing the conflict between heroism and humanity, the public image and the real person. £16, £14 concs, £7.50 under 26s



**A Night at the Musicals.** Friday 20 May, 7.30pm. Chipping Norton Amateur Operatic Society celebrate the past shows they have staged, such as *Carousel* and *My Fair Lady*, alongside songs from shows they'd like to perform in the future like *West Side Story* and *Sister Act*. £17, £15 concs

**Skerryvore.** Saturday 21 May, 7.30pm. The multi-award-winning band Skerryvore bring the best contemporary Scottish sounds to Chippy, with their unique fusion of traditional music and songs with urban sounds of rock, pop and funk. (This is a standing event in the Stalls. Reserved seating available in the balcony.) £20

**Neil Band presents Laurel and Hardy.** Wednesday 25 May, 7.30pm. After the success of his long-running Buster Keaton show, Neil Band is back with a new show devoted to legendary comedy duo Stan and Ollie. Featuring stills, clips and piano accompaniment, it culminates in two of their best silent films. £16, £7.50 under 26s

**The Rod Stewart Songbook.** Friday 27 May, 7.30pm. Pete McCall performs Rod's songs accompanied by his own live band. From *I Am Sailing* to *Baby Jane*, the rasp is authentic and

the moves are textbook Rod in this entertaining live tribute act. £21

**All of me (The possibility of Future Splendour).** Saturday 28 May, 7.30pm (14+). Written and performed by Olivier Award nominee Caroline Horton, this is an intimate and absurd exploration of wanting to live, wanting to die and what can happen if we sit together with the dark. (Contains themes of depression and suicide.) £16, £14 concs, £7.50 under 26s

**Fairport Convention.** Sunday 29 May, 7.30pm. Fairport Convention have been entertaining music lovers for over half a century; this year's Spring Tour presents long-established favourites and some surprises from albums old and new. £28

## Talks, exhibitions & local author

**The Arts Society Cotswolds.** Wednesday 11 May, 11am:



**Carl Linnaeus, Botanist and Art Appreciator.** Lecturer: Mark Spencer. Without Carl Linnaeus, many aspects of the modern world would be poorer. Of his many innovations, establishing the binomial system is considered the greatest. Thus, we humans are known as *Homo sapiens* and the common lawn daisy as *Bellis perennis*. Linnaeus's legacy was far wider than this. He was first in Europe to flower and fruit a banana and he developed a technique for growing seed pearls. His plant collection (herbarium or hortus siccus), library and archives are now housed at the Linnean Society of London. Booking essential at [theartssocietycotswolds.org](http://theartssocietycotswolds.org) or 01993 823943.

**Zuleika Gallery. Woodstock.** 11 May-6 June, Wednesday to Saturday 10am-5pm. Flowers and Food – a solo exhibition of new still life paintings by David Williams-Bulkeley. David now predominantly focuses on still life in his studio where his chosen objects allow him to record the passing seasons through an acute observation of light, form and colour. [zuleikagallery.com](http://zuleikagallery.com)

**The Farm & Food Literature Festival.** UK's first



literature festival dedicated to farming is on 15 May at FarmED, the not-for-profit farm and food education centre at Honeydale Farm near Chipping Norton, OX7 6BJ. It is co-curated with Chelsea Green Publishing UK as a celebration of words, stories, and experiences from the wonderful world of agroecology, regenerative farming, and sustainable food. Headlined by Dan Saladino talking about his book *Eating to Extinction*, the Festival opens with a panel discussion on how food and farming can save the planet. Nicola Chester (On

**What's On**  
**LIVE @ THE THEATRE**

**THE THEATRE**  
**CHIPPING NORTON**  
2 Spring Street | Chipping Norton | Oxfordshire OX7 5NL

**Wed 4 – Sat 14**

**The Mountaintop**

20th May, 7.30pm  
21st May, 7.30pm  
25th May, 7.30pm

27th May, 7.30pm  
28th May, 7.30pm  
29th May, 7.30pm  
4th June, 7.30pm

**FILMS**  
29th & 30th April, 7.30pm  
8th May, 4pm & 7.30pm

15th May, 4pm & 7.30pm &  
17th May, 7.30pm &  
22nd May, 4pm & 7.30pm  
30th May-7th June

**SCREENINGS**  
28th April, 7pm  
19th May, 7.15pm  
26th May, 7pm

**GALLERY**  
19th April—10th May

**A NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS**—£17, £15 concs  
**SKERRYVORE**—SOLD OUT  
**NEIL BRAND PRESENTS LAUREL AND HARDY**—£16, £7.50 under 26s

**THE ROD STEWART SONGBOOK**—£21  
**ALL OF ME**—£16, £14 concs, £7.50 under 26s  
**FAIRPORT CONVENTION**—£28  
**THE RONNIE SCOTTS STORY**—£24

**TICKETS £10, £7.50 UNDER 16S**  
**THE OUTFIT (15)**  
**THE OUTFIT (15)**

**OPERATION MINCEMEAT (12A)**  
**DOWNTON ABBEY: A NEW ERA (12A)**

**TICKETS £17.50**  
**HENRY V (12A)**  
**SWAN LAKE (12A)**  
**STRAIGHT LINE CRAZY (12A)**

**MAUREEN GILLESPIE**

**BOX OFFICE 01608 642350**    [www.chippingnortontheatre.com](http://www.chippingnortontheatre.com)

## THE ARTS

*Gallows Down*), Vicki Hird (*Rebugging the Planet*), Ben Raskin (*The Woodchip Handbook*) and Chris Smaje (*A Small Farm Future*) share thoughts on why farming is so integral to restoring wildlife and biodiversity as well as our own wellbeing and regenerating our ecosystems. Bestselling author Sarah Langford talks about her upcoming book, *Rooted: Stories of Life, Land and a Farming Revolution*. Part-memoir, part narrative account of farmers from around the country, it shines a light on the farming world at a critical point in the countryside's future. Writer and broadcaster Anna Jones shares her new book, *Divide: The relationship crisis between town and country*. Miriam McDonald, Marina O'Connell, Ben Rawlence, and Colin Tudge complete the line-up. Tickets from £35. [farm-ed.co.uk](http://farm-ed.co.uk)

**Art Exhibition at FarmED.** A small group of Chippy and Chadlington artists, an offshoot of the Glyme Lane Project and currently informal artists in residence at FarmED, will be exhibiting in May 2023 after starting there in October 2021. The group includes Judith Yarrow, Carol Harvey, Jill Colchester, Ruth Shaw-Williams, and Crabby Taylor, some of whose work will be on display during Artweeks 2022 at FarmED.

**Local Author Gemma Levine.** Her new book *Golden Threads* reveals the emotion, compassion and laughter behind 34 iconic photographs of influential people of our time – as though reported by a 'fly on the wall', alongside personal quotes. Gemma, with 26 books published, is best known for striking black & white images, of Princess Diana, Judi Dench,



Joanna Lumley and many more. A book signing, free to attend, is set for Saturday 8 May 11am-1pm at Daylesford Farm Shop. Copies also (£15 inc postage) from St George's Hospital Charity, St George's Hospital, Blackshaw Road, London SW17 0QT – contact [sophie.king00@stgeorges.nhs.uk](mailto:sophie.king00@stgeorges.nhs.uk). All proceeds to Lymphoedema Research.

### Local Festivals

**KITE Festival.** 10-12 June, Kirtlington Park, OX5 3JN. Billed as 'A brand new festival of ideas and music for curious, inquisitive, and cultural minds. KITE will offer room to dance and space to think. In an age defined by the ubiquity of the internet and social media, there is growing public appetite for knowledge, debate, and discussion'. The Forum: Keynote talks and conversations with today's most influential voices hosted by leading journalists; lights are on the stage, not on the audience. Outdoor arena: biggest music acts with the likes of Grace Jones, TLC, Mavis Staples and many more. Palladian VIP: dining experience in Kirtlington House with a journalist or festival speaker, or relax in the gardens for some respite from the hustle and bustle of the festival. [kitefestival.co.uk](http://kitefestival.co.uk)

**Cornbury Music Festival, The Last Hurrah.** 8-10 July, Great Tew Park, OX7 4AF. James Blunt, The Darkness, Ronan Keating, Jools Holland and more. Billed as 'civilised, charming and irresistible – a homespun melting pot where music-lovers share pies and champagne with superstars, toffs, rockers,

crooners, Morris dancers, farmers, urbanites, fashionistas, gourmet chefs and little old ladies who make exceptional cakes ... A country fair with a rock 'n' roll twist; a farmers' market with a dance floor; a local carnival with a classic contemporary soundtrack'. [cornburyfestival.com](http://cornburyfestival.com)

**Wilderness Festival.** 4-7 August, Cornbury Park, OX7 3DG. (Family camping OX7 3HL) Music, world class arts and performance, feasting and dining, talks, ideas and spoken word, outdoors, wellbeing, families. Whether it's embroidering, painting, beading, or borrowing, dig deep into your wardrobes, buy pre-loved, responsibly rent and upcycle your outfit. Themes: Friday – extreme eccentricities; Saturday – eclectic geometric; Sunday – jubilee jamboree. [wildernessfestival.com](http://wildernessfestival.com)

**Fairport's Cropredy Convention.** 11-13 August, OX17.



Who's playing? Richard Thompson, Fairport Convention, Steve Hackett amongst others. What is it? Folk-rock stalwarts Fairport started Cropredy in 1979 as a way of staging an annual reunion concert. One thing led to another and now it has become the bucolic festival of choice for grizzled Bohemians of all hues. The line-up is folk-orientated but not exclusively so: electronic whizz Trevor Horn and 1970s-influenced psych rocker Rosalie Cunningham also feature. [fairportconvention.com](http://fairportconvention.com)

**Big Festival.** 26-28 August, Alex James' Farm, Kingham, OX7 6UJ. Music from the UK's biggest artists, Michelin star chefs live on stage, award-winning street food and an exciting array of family activities – an action-packed weekend and unrivalled programme of entertainment. Expect to sing along at the top of your voice to the first-class musical line up, dance the night away at the family silent disco, catch awesome DJ sets from some of your favourite names at the Cheese Hub, along with countless stand out performances across several musical stages to explore across the farm. [thebigfestival.com](http://thebigfestival.com)

**Jaffé & Neale**  
BOOKSHOP & CAFÉ

**Books Books Books**

**7 days a week**

**Café Café Café**

**Fri/Sat/Sun**

1 Middle Row, Chipping Norton  
01608 641033 [info@jaffeandneale.co.uk](mailto:info@jaffeandneale.co.uk)

## Cinema, concerts & music

**Screen by the Green.** Saturday 14 May 7.30pm – West Side



*Story* directed by Steven Spielberg. The story transposes the star-crossed lovers of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* to 1950s New York. Through a stunning production design that is visually staggering, Spielberg has taken a well-known story to new heights. In so doing, he achieves the impossible by

making a great new film adaptation of a classic, making it all work without undue modification. Tickets £5 from 01608 659903 or [screenbythegreen@gmail.com](mailto:screenbythegreen@gmail.com)

**Chipping Norton Choral Society.** Saturday 11 June, 7.30pm at St Mary's Church, Chipping Norton. *Pomp and Pimms – Songs from the Coronation*. Conductor: Benedict Goodall. Honouring the Jubilee year marking the 70-year reign of Queen Elizabeth II, this summer concert draws together pieces performed at the 1953 Coronation in Westminster Abbey, alongside arrangements of traditional British tunes. The programme includes familiar works by Elgar, Handel, Parry, Stanford, Vaughan Williams and Walton. There is a long interval to enjoy drinks and your own picnic – Pimms and other refreshments on sale. Full programme and tickets at [cncs.org.uk](http://cncs.org.uk)

**Burford Singers Summer Concerts.** Sunday 19 June, 7.30pm at Church of St John the Baptist, Burford. Morten Lauridsen: *Lux Aeterna*. Choral 'lollipops' including works by Handel, Parry, Fauré, Elgar, Bruckner and others, Conductor: Brian Kay, Accompanist: Robin Baggs. Tickets (reserved) at £20, £15, £10, (unreserved) £8. Postal booking to 6 May (booking form on website). Online booking 15 May - 18 June (booking fee applies) at [burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/](http://burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/). Booking in person (unreserved tickets only) 15 May - 18 June from The Madhatter Bookshop, Burford and on the door.

Saturday 25 June, 7.30pm at Church of St Mary, Banbury. Programme as above. Tickets: £15 – all unreserved. Online booking from 22 May-24 June (booking fee applies) at [burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/](http://burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/). In person booking opens 22 May-24 June at Tourist Information Centre, Castle Quay, Banbury. Full details: [burfordsingers.org.uk/events/](http://burfordsingers.org.uk/events/)

**Bledington Music Festival.** 7-9 June, 7.30pm at St



Leonard's Church, Bledington. Tuesday 7 June: Trumpeter Crispian Steele-Perkins – of *Antiques Roadshow* theme tune fame – pictured with organist Thomas Trotter, President of the Festival: Handel, Mozart, Haydn, Gershwin and Leroy Anderson. Wednesday 8 June, guitarist Craig Ogden: Rodrigo,

Albeniz and Villa-Lobos and pieces by Scarlatti and JS Bach and together with mezzo-soprano Claire Bradshaw: favourites such as *Lascia ch'io Pianga* from Handel's *Rinaldo*, and Benjamin Britten's arrangements of *I will Give my Love an Apple* and *O Waly Waly* as well as Jerome Kern's *The Folks Who Live on the Hill*.



Thursday 9 June *Four Girls, Four Harps* (pictured): Handel, Bizet, Rimsky-Korsakov and Manuel de Falla. Tickets £22 from Bledington Community Shop, The King's Head, Bledington and other outlets. [bledingtonmusicfestival.co.uk](http://bledingtonmusicfestival.co.uk)

**Dean & Chadlington Summer Music Festival.** Saturday 25 June, Gala Picnic Concert at Merriscourt Gallery, Sarsden from 5.30pm. Bring a picnic and stroll round the Gallery's 500 acres of glorious Cotswold countryside. 7pm Gala Concert: Susie Allan – Piano, Claire Bradshaw – Mezzo Soprano, Richard Coxon – Tenor, Katie Lodge – Trumpet, Craig Ogden – Guitar, Kate Suthers – Violin. Music by Purcell, Strauss, Schubert, Schumann, Rodrigo, Quilter. Tickets £26 to include glass of wine. Sunday 26 June 2.30pm. Moorish Pavilion at Kingham Lodge, Kingham. Concert with the Marmen Quartet, followed by Afternoon Tea. Johannes Marmen – Violin, Laia Valentin Braun – Violin, Bryony Gibson-Cornish – Viola, Sinead O'Halloran – Cello. Music by Haydn and Beethoven. Tickets £20 inc afternoon tea. Sunday 26 June, 9pm Twilight Concert: Harpist Keziah Thomas returns to the Festival with her arrangement of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* by candlelight in the tranquil setting of St Kenelm's Church, Church Enstone. Tickets – £15 at [boxoffice@chadlingtonfestival.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@chadlingtonfestival.org.uk) or [tinyurl.com/chadlingtonfestival](http://tinyurl.com/chadlingtonfestival)



## Open Day at Whichford Pottery



Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May - 10am to 4pm

Join us to celebrate the skills and craftsmanship of the Whichford team.

### Open Workshop

See how we make our flowerpots. All day - free and no need to book.

**Big & Bold Demonstration by Adam Keeling**  
11.30am & 2.30pm - £35 - booking essential.

- Full Flowerpot Range • Seconds
- Pot Luck Bargains • The Straw Kitchen

### Nursery Days at the Pottery - 10am to 4pm



A great chance to buy plants and chat to these top nurseries in our garden.

- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May - Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants
- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May - Wildegoose Nursery
- Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May - Fibrex Nursery
- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June - Tynings Plants & Windrush Willow

Whichford Pottery, Whichford, Nr. Shipston-on-Stour, Warks, CV36 5PG Tel: 01608 684416 [www.whichfordpottery.com](http://www.whichfordpottery.com)

# SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS



1



2



3



4

## Congratulations to all the winners at the Town Sports Awards evening, sponsored by Chipping Norton Town Council.

The ceremony at a packed Town Hall on 25th March was honoured by Mayor Georgia Mazower who presented the trophies. Deputy Mayor Sandra Coleman presented the certificates.

Former Mayor and *Chippy News* Sports Editor Graham Beacham has helped promote the event for several years. He thanked the Council for their sponsorship, Mayor Georgia Mazower, Cllr Sandra Coleman who is also Chair of the Community Committee, Guildhall and Town Hall staff, Witney Trophies for engraved awards, and *Chippy News'* Malcolm Glenn for photographs. Well done to Graham – for his tireless work in setting up a highly successful evening!



10



9



8

## TOWN SPORTS AWARDS 2022



5



6



7

Cricket pictures © Paul Weaver.

### Olympic Legacy 2022

**Under 18 Gold Medal Winner, Cricket:**  
Elodie Brown (*pic 5*)

**Over 18 Gold Medal Winner, Rugby:**  
Frances Morton, received by her son, Sam (*pic 1*)

### Town Sports Awards 2022

**Club Over 18 Award**  
Chipping Norton & District Cricket Club:  
Graham and Richard Powell (*pic 10*)

**Team Over 18 Award**  
Chipping Norton Cricket Club 2nd XI (*pic 3*)

**Sportsperson Over 18 Award**  
Slamat Sami (*pic 6*)

### Sportsperson 11-17 Award

Jake Brown (*pic 7*)

### Team 11-17 Award

Chipping Norton Rugby Club Under 12 Group (*pic 4*)

### Team Under 11 Award

Chipping Norton Swifts Girls Under 10 Football Team  
(*pic 2*)

### Sportsperson Under 11

Caleb Lynchsmith - football, tennis  
and other sports  
(*pic 8*)

Also a Thank You trophy for contribution and support of Sports Awards 2008-2022 to Chipping Norton Town Council (*pic 9*)

# SPORTS NEWS

## Walking Football

From 9 May, walking football sessions move outside to play on the all-weather pitch at the Leisure Centre, on Monday evenings from 5 until 6.30 to take advantage of the glorious summer weather that is anticipated. It is open to players of all abilities aged 50 or over.

In early April two Chippy teams were entered into a friendly tournament organised by Oxfordshire FA held at Bicester. Unfortunately, the over 60's team, including players aged from 61 to 75 had to withdraw at the last moment



due to a number becoming ill with Covid. The team of 50 – 60 year olds (pictured above) did manage to compete. From a squad of eight they played five 15-minute games of six-a-side against other Oxfordshire teams representing, amongst others, Banbury Maturians, Cherwell Strollers and Bicester Fossils. They won three of their games and lost two. The tournament was a rehearsal for an Oxfordshire Walking Football League which will be held in the coming summer months.

New players are always welcome to join us on Monday evenings. If you are interested and would like to know more, please visit our website: [shilsons.co.uk/cnwf.html](http://shilsons.co.uk/cnwf.html).

Derek Dickinson

## Chipping Norton Cricket Club



**Generous gift:** The Club now has a defibrillator donated by Bloor Homes which built The Pillars housing development next to the Club on Banbury Road. Pictured alongside the defibrillator installed on the outside wall of our Pavilion is Jack Owen, one of our volunteer groundsmen. Jack was highly influential in

arranging this very generous gift, so thank you Jack! Let's hope it is never used but we're sure it will give some reassurance to our neighbours and the wider community.

**New Season starts:** May sees the start of the outdoor 2022 season, the second year in the Cherwell League. Hopes will be high for the new season, following last year's success with two promotions and five awards at the Town Sports Awards. Sadly the traditional cricket tea won't be available this year but spectators are now welcome back!

League Home fixtures for May:

- 7<sup>th</sup> May 1<sup>st</sup> XI v Witney Swifts 1<sup>st</sup> XI
- 14<sup>th</sup> May 2<sup>nd</sup> XI v Kidlington 2<sup>nd</sup> XI
- 21<sup>st</sup> May 1<sup>st</sup> XI v Charlbury 1<sup>st</sup> XI
- 28<sup>th</sup> May 2<sup>nd</sup> XI v Oxford Downs 4<sup>th</sup> XI

Graham Beacham

## The Vintage Sports Car Club

The Vintage Sports Car Club had a fantastic Herefordshire Trial on 19 & 20 March. Fuelled by the usual good company and fantastic cars, clouds would have had little success in dampening the atmosphere, but the sunshine was certainly a welcome addition to both days. The Herefordshire was an entertaining affair as competitors sped, full throttle up hills to clear them, but this wasn't the only excitement of the weekend. The Trial caused a bit of a stir with the inclusion of some special guests: Paddy McGuinness, Freddie Flintoff and Chris Harris of *Top Gear*, as well as Richard Hammond of *Richard Hammond's Workshop*, with their respective film crews! Keep an eye out for their VSCC inspired episodes this summer.

The good weather and the fabulous array of home-baked goods on offer at one of Saturday's spectator hills – Chandos – was certainly enough to keep everyone in good spirits. The event, as always, was a wonderfully sociable affair. You can find the event results at our website: [vsc.co.uk](http://vsc.co.uk) along with an intriguing array of Club news and upcoming events.

Shannon Hunt

## Chippy Swifts football



Chippy Swifts were delighted to be recognised at the recent Town Sports Awards. Our newly formed U10 girls team were presented with the U11

Team of the Year award, an amazing accolade for these young players and their dedicated volunteer coaches. Congratulations to them all. (See p23 for full report)

We are also pleased to announce another valued sponsor, RM Painting and Decorating have kindly supplied our new U7s with training jackets. We are very lucky to be supported by so many local companies.

On the subject of U7s, we are busy making plans for next year's new recruits. We already have a new coach in Liam Busby taking his FA courses, we welcome Liam to the Swifts family. If your child is going into Year 2 after the summer and wishes to play football in a safe and fun environment, please contact us via the webpage [www.chippingnortonswifts.co.uk](http://www.chippingnortonswifts.co.uk)

Finally, our end of season awards day will be held at the Rugby Club on from noon to 4pm on 12 June. It will be a football extravaganza with all teams involved in some small sided matches. Everyone is welcome to come and show their support. Beer and food will be available on the day.

Martyn Walsh

## 4 Shires Swimming Club

We attended two Meets last month, Luton and Maxwell at Aylesbury which gave us some outstanding swims. However, the overall results showed just how much Oxfordshire really needs a 50m pool. We had the L3 Oxford Regional Qualifier in April where we had 22 swimmers all trying to get Regional times. April & May see the South East Regional Championships and we also have our Club Championships in May, which is always an ideal opportunity for all the Academy & Pre-Comp squads to get some times in order to enter other L4 Meets. Senior Swimmer



# SPORTS NEWS

of the Month was Ben Warner who is swimming really well at present and without much more effort, can continue to improve. Junior Swimmer of the Month was Rebecca Cooley, someone to watch out for as she progresses.

If you are a keen swimmer and are looking to compete or are simply looking to develop your fitness and swimming skills, then please contact us to book one of our Trial sessions. You can do this via <http://www.4ssc.co.uk/join-us> or email [membership@4ssc.co.uk](mailto:membership@4ssc.co.uk) for details of our next Trial sessions.

Lucy Warner

## Chipping Norton Rugby Club

By the time you read this we will be at season end and April's



Oxfordshire County Mini Rugby Festival will be over – more on that next month! Like so many community sports clubs 2021-22 has been a season of reestablishment as players and members return to the fold. Our 1<sup>st</sup> XV will finish the season a creditable 4<sup>th</sup> in the BBO Premiership – a great performance after a challenging start hampered by injury. We are looking for more new senior squad players to join us ahead of next season and to be able to consistently field a 2<sup>nd</sup> XV team, after we struggled at times this season. So please do look out for recruitment information or contact the Club via [chippingnortonrugby@gmail.com](mailto:chippingnortonrugby@gmail.com). Despite all that the last two years has thrown at us, community sport has met the challenge head on, so we were delighted to pick up two trophies at the Town Sports Awards. Fresh from their second Landrover Cup win, our U12's (pictured above) took Team of the Year for 11–17 years and former Club Manager Frances Morton was recognised for her years of service to local rugby with a Gold legacy Award. Our congratulations to all the other award winners and thanks to Graham Beacham and the Town Council for another excellent evening that you can read all about elsewhere in this edition. (See p23)

Graeme Williamson

## Hook Norton Tennis Club



A Fun tournament on 9 April was won by Teresa Hine and James Barlow (pictured).

The floodlit league matches are nearly over. The A team is currently 4<sup>th</sup> in Division 1, with the B team 5<sup>th</sup>. The C team is 5<sup>th</sup> in Division 3. Summer league matches start soon, with three teams competing.

Coaching is available from: Marc Gilkes: 07930 406015 also Faith Heron: 07771 904905 and Steve Bone: 07850 036656. All ladder matches are under way. Book courts via <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HookNortonTennisClub> which

also lists Club sessions. To play in a team or for more information please contact Kate Hopkins 01608 642774, [khs.shoes@gmail.com](mailto:khs.shoes@gmail.com) or visit the website (as above).

Elaine Priestley

## Indoor Hockey Team

After two years of struggling to keep our team together, we are delighted that from April we are back to playing every



Sunday at 10–11 am on a full-sized pitch in the Sports Hall at Chipping Norton Leisure Centre.

This would be the perfect time for people to come and join us. We welcome new players (teenagers and men and women of any age), however able, however talented, and however fit. Just come and say hello and we will introduce you to the simple rules and can lend you sticks or shin pads. That's all you need. No weekly commitment necessary! For further details of what's on offer please contact Sharon Truelove [sjtruelove@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sjtruelove@hotmail.co.uk) or 01608 730546 / 07722 603207.

Sharon Truelove



## LITTLE COMPTON BOWLS CLUB

**New members of ALL ages and abilities always welcome.**

We are your local village bowls club where you can enjoy our new facilities, free use of equipment and most of all, **a warm welcome.**

*Why not give it a try?*

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01608 642979 or  
[stevedwilliams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stevedwilliams@yahoo.co.uk)

# CLUB NEWS

## WOWI Committee thanks

West Oxfordshire WI had their Annual Meeting in March when the Committee was elected with our President, Linda Durrant, re-elected for another year.

Three Committee members stood down after years of service. Deb Webb was one of WOWI's founder members



*Retiring Committee members, Deb Webb, Jean Davison and Irene Botham were presented with bouquets at WOWI's AGM in March*

and took on the Secretary's job four years ago. Deb took charge of all our Zooms as well as all correspondence. As you can imagine, we had to enter a digital age during the pandemic. Jean Davison has been on the Committee for years, running the craft group from her house and lending us her beautiful garden for our August picnic event. Jean was also responsible for making our banner which you see in the picture. Irene Botham joined us comparatively recently in 2018 when she moved from Sheffield. It wasn't long before she was on the Committee and working tirelessly for WOWI. None of them are leaving as members but taking time out from committee duties. A big thank you to all of them.

Why don't you ladies out there think about coming along for a visit? Every 3rd Monday of the month in St Mary's Parish Rooms at 7.30pm. We have an exciting programme arranged for the year. We are a very sociable bunch who would love to see you. Contact: [wowi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:wowi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk)

Hilary Dix 01608 646228

## U3A – from India to Dickens

Our monthly Speaker's Meeting returned to the Town Hall, hopefully for good, after previous false starts. We welcomed back Jenny Mallin who spoke about her travels in India. She saw many changes over more than 20 years but India always retained the Wow! factor. We were treated to less of a travelog but more an introduction to a kaleidoscope of characters, starting with the taxi and rickshaw drivers. At the start of a drive across a city in Goa, the rickshaw driver stopped and refused to go any further. Why? Because an old lady, carrying an empty basket on her hip had crossed in front of them and that was a sign of bad luck for that journey! A full basket on her head would have been good luck! The joys of buying a train ticket were hilarious as was the camel ride in the desert. We were also introduced to Anita, a lady from Devon who met homeless children on the beach, which resulted in the creation of several refuges. Jenny had photos and stories of children who had now been through university and others who now had successful businesses.

On 4 May, we welcome Ian Keble, talking about Charles Dickens and his skills as a conjurer, a complete change!

Chris Clinch

## Explorer Scouts play Monopoly



*Callum, Cameron, Joe, Archie, Jill Kenda in Leicester Square*

location on a road or in a station. Once you had arrived at your destination, you logged in via an app to see if you could buy it or have to pay rent. Throughout the day participants earned money by visiting places, completing challenges and collecting rent from the other teams in your game. It was a brilliant day and one of our teams was placed 122!



*Filip, Sean Joanna and Shannon outside Buckingham Palace*

We are a thriving Explorer Scout Unit with 26 young people aged 14–18. We currently have three Leaders but we are looking for more to join us. Explorer Scouts are the 4<sup>th</sup> Section of the Scout Association.

You can see what Explorers get up to if you visit <https://www.scouts.org.uk/explorers> or you can contact us via [chippyesu@gmail.com](mailto:chippyesu@gmail.com) for further information.

Jill Eliot

## Chipping Norton Labour News

The campaign for the local elections will be reaching a climax by the time this edition of *Chippy News* hits the streets.

Our candidates will have been out meeting as many residents as possible during the campaign. In Chippy Rizvana Poole is standing for election to West Oxfordshire District Council, and Sharon Wheaton and Steve Akers are standing for election to Chippy Town Council. Sue Richards is standing for WODC in Ascott & Shipton.

All of us believe passionately in local democracy. Your vote really does count! Please use it. Whether you want to see safer streets, a vibrant and attractive town centre with thriving businesses, better bus services – whatever the issue – these are issues that matter to us all.

Undeniably, these elections will also be a chance for voters to say how you feel about the Government nationally. If you want to speak to any of our candidates before polling

5 March found Chippy's Explorer Scout Unit in London playing Monopoly alongside thousands of other Scouts and Explorers from all over the country. There were over 700 games of Monopoly being played at the same time with six teams in each game. The idea was to visit every place on the Monopoly board but you then had to find a specific



*Shannon, Joanna and Arthur take on the Pyramid Challenge*

# CLUB NEWS

day on 5 May or would like a Vote Labour/ Vote Rizvana poster, please contact us at [steveakers55@gmail.com](mailto:steveakers55@gmail.com)

Steve Akers

## Burford & Kingham Rotary

A very successful morning selling pots of purple crocus for Mothering Sunday in Burford raised over £200 for Rotary's



End Polio Now campaign with six people also showing an interest in joining Rotary.

We have been busy doing teas at Chastleton and a bucket collection. Profit from the teas and club donations raised over £2000 to provide urgent medical equipment for Ukraine. We had a very enjoyable Turkish meal in Witney, and supper and a Theatre trip in Chippy. Coming up is a walk in Cornbury Park followed by a pub lunch.

Several members attended the district conference in Oxford with some excellent speakers including Captain Tom's daughter and vaccinologist Dame Sarah Gilbert. We also heard about the incredible work that Rotary International is doing to aid Ukraine. This was followed by a dinner and overnight stay at Keble College. The next morning two Rotary Scholars, overseas graduates supported by Rotary, showed us round their colleges.

So, if you enjoy social events, meeting new people and helping local and international charities, please think of joining us. We are a small but very friendly group with members from all the local villages. We meet every Monday 6.30pm for 7pm at Burford Golf Club. Contact our Secretary John Smith email [jpw.smith@jasss.co.uk](mailto:jpw.smith@jasss.co.uk) / 077178 83182 Or call me for an informal chat – 01608 643844 or 07702 135731.

Ros Richardson

## A welcome at the Railway Club

At the meeting held in the Town Hall on Tuesday 5 April we were entertained by Frank Banfield showing some of his very old cine films on transport, starting with the 1890's up to the 1950's. A mixture of silent movies and some early sound tracks. Membership has fallen slightly, presumably still due to covid. We would love to welcome new members, especially young people. Next month's meeting is on Tuesday 3 May at 7.30pm when the speaker is Jim Portlock on state owned railways in the German Democratic Republic (East Germany). We welcome Laurence Waters to our June meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> to talk about Great Western Engine Sheds.

There are still a few places left on the outing to the Bluebell Line on Saturday 7 May leaving Chippy at 8am. Non members welcome, £35 per person. Contact Emma Bayley on 01608 641098 for more information or to book a place.

Cicely Maunder

## Chippy Ramblers in the Glyme Valley

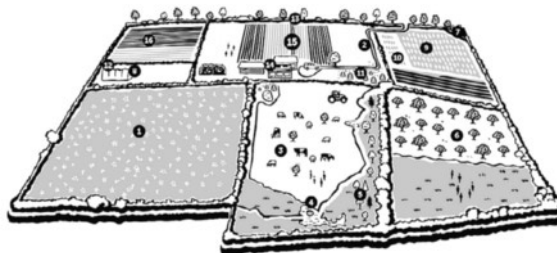
On a nice fine dry Sunday afternoon, eight of us met up for a local walk, starting at New Street car park at 2pm. We went past Glyme Hall and continued with the valley walk passing the old farm house, and a group of organic sheep nearby. Having crossed the stream we came across a section of grassland cordoned off to protect a rare plant called meadow clary, which seems to favour the area. It flowers between June and July, being tall and purple; it is well worth seeing. On reaching the London Road some of the ramblers went back that way, leaving the rest of the group to tackle Swing Swang across to the Banbury Road and back into the centre of Town.

The Walk is always on the first Sunday of the month. For more details contact Heather Leonard on 01608 643691.

Jill Megson

## Growing organically with NOOG

Our outdoor visits continue on Wednesday 4 May with a guided tour round the not-for-profit organisation, FarmED, at Honeydale Farm, a diverse 107-acre mixed farm, near Shipton-under-Wychwood. Run as an educational facility,



*FarmED's diverse activities*

FarmED welcomes everyone – farmers, growers, advisors, policy makers, students – to learn about regenerative agriculture, farming with nature, and producing healthy, delicious food. There will be a £7 fee.

And on Wednesday 1 June, we make a return visit to North Aston Organics, near Deddington – a highly successful veg box scheme which has been running for 25 years, growing fresh organic vegetables and herbs for customers in northern Oxfordshire and neighbouring counties.

Visits start at 7pm and non-members are welcome. For info about N Oxon Organic Gardeners, please contact Tracy Lean, [tracylean@gmail.com](mailto:tracylean@gmail.com), 01295 780710, [www.noog.org.uk](http://www.noog.org.uk).



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# CLUB NEWS

## Scouting round up

**Beavers:** Woodpecker Beavers finished the term celebrating Easter. They've had a busy term completing badge work with one Beaver in particular, Sam, working very hard to achieve his Chief Scout Bronze Award. Some of the work done towards this award was carried out during lockdown so this was a fantastic achievement.

**Cubs:** The Cubs have been busy making a scale model of the solar system out of balls and balloons of various sizes, covering them in papier-mâché and then paint. They are



pictured making a model of Jupiter. Lots of messy fun! Cubs are also looking forward to summer camp in Wales.

**Scouts:** Two new Scouts have been invested. Nearly all the Scouts have achieved the Digital Citizen and Skills Challenges. Aqua Camp is in June which is eagerly anticipated.

## Chipping Norton History Society

The History Society will be meeting on Monday 9 May at 2pm in the Lower Hall at the Methodist Church, West Street. There will be a talk by Tom Crook entitled The Great Stink – The Victorian Battle against dirt. Visitors are welcome £3.

Janis Paxton

## World affairs keep CN Amnesty busy

Whilst attention is turned to continuing warfare and the apparent perpetration of war crimes in Ukraine, sadly we remind ourselves that elsewhere and further afield the conditions for many people remain dire. For example in Yemen, Syria, Myanmar, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Xinjiang State and Israel-Palestine, wars, acts of genocide, practices of Apartheid, and man-made famines are resulting in deaths, deprivation and destruction, and denial of basic human rights. So we have been writing to authorities in these countries and to their representatives in the UK to ensure that the plight of individuals – including those wrongly imprisoned, often denied necessary medical care or legal representation, and/or suffering torture for alleged 'crimes against the state' – is not forgotten. Current cases requiring action by email can be found at <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/actions>.

Our next meetings is at 7.30pm on Thursday 12 May, in the Lower Town Hall, Chipping Norton with guest speaker, Kate Clanchy, talking about giving young refugees a voice through poetry. All are welcome. For details call Val on 01608 645036.

Kate Ward

## Green Gym prepares for Spring

Some of you will have seen us working at the Chippy Health Centre on a Wednesday morning. We have been there twice in the last month, cutting down the ornamental grasses to allow for spring regrowth and generally tidying up the main borders. But also, thanks to a grant from the Health Centre, we have put in new plants to fill gaps in the atriums and smaller beds. Further afield we have been to Gagingwell to clear the pond and to the Glyme Valley Nature Reserve where we clear scrub as requested by BBOWT (the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust).

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](http://www.chippygreengym.org) and then contact me at [jennyharrington@btinternet.com](mailto:jennyharrington@btinternet.com), or phone 01608 643269. Everyone is very welcome and there are jobs for all!

Jenny Harrington

## False start for Chippy Folk

We were very sorry that we had to cancel Folk Club at very short notice on Monday 11 April. At the last minute, the venue were not able to host us due to sickness. Not an April Fool, just one of those things! However, we are confident we will be meeting in May. Weather permitting, we will be outside in the lovely pub garden (under cover). And everyone has already practised their songs, so it should be an excellent night! All welcome at The Crown, Church Enstone, OX7 4NN on Monday 9 May at 7.45pm. Sing, play, recite or just listen. Visit [www.chippingnortonfolk.org.uk](http://www.chippingnortonfolk.org.uk) for more information.

Rachel Chai

# Blocked Ears?



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## The Willows

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Or contact Jo today: 01386 701650  
[jo@earhygienist.co.uk](mailto:jo@earhygienist.co.uk)

# CLUB NEWS

## Chipping Norton Yacht Club



*Sailing Super Yachts – designing, building, and operating their masts and spars* was the subject of this month's talk given by Damon Roberts of Magma Structures.

From the days of the Vikings, masts have been held up by stays, originally rope, even in Nelson's day, more recently by wire. Traditional square-rigged ships split the sail area into several smaller sails, which required a large number of sailors to climb the rigging to set and take in the sails, with a forest of ropes both to hold up the masts and control the sails. For super yachts, the solution has normally been to have three masts to increase the number of sails, but with a large sail on each mast. Starting with the iconic award-winning Maltese Falcon (292 feet long), Damon designed three free-standing 200-foot carbon fibre masts rotating on bearings, with the square sails furled inside the masts and the angle of the sails controlled by electric motors rotating the masts. This has given this incredible yacht push-button sailing. The same

technology was then applied to the larger sailing yacht Black Pearl (106m), and the more controversial sailing yacht A (146m) currently impounded from its Russian owner.

For our programme, to join or to arrange to come along as a guest to one of our monthly meetings, visit [cnyc.co.uk](http://cnyc.co.uk)  
Paul Walker

## CRAG support for refugees

The Charlbury Refugee Action Group have been marshalling local support in the Ukraine crisis (see page 3) but continue fundraising for wider worldwide challenges. At our last Sunday concert we chose to raise funds for the Refugee Community Kitchen in Calais and Choose Love, who've both been doing tremendous work in Calais and beyond to ensure those who are stranded are kept warm and nourished. CRAG are planning several exciting and unusual fundraising events this summer, so please come along: CRAG **Artweeks Café** (Sunday 22 May and Saturday 28 May) offers lunch or cake and coffee whilst you enjoy the art in Charlbury. Everything will be homemade by CRAG's famous team of cooks and bakers! At The Memorial Hall, Brown's Lane, Charlbury, OX7 3Q. **Sunday Tea Concert** (Saturday 26 June) welcomes back our regular artist, harpsichordist Alastair Ross, performing Geminiani cello sonatas with his son George Ross, a very talented baroque cellist. Save the date for a lovely afternoon of baroque music. **CRAG Art Fair** (Friday 1 July – Saturday 2 July) Beautiful original art works, prints and more, on sale from a couple of pounds to thousands, at The Friends Meeting House in Charlbury. You can sign up to the CRAG mailing list, via <https://bit.ly/crag-signup>. We would like to thank everyone in our local community for your continued interest and support.

Val Parker

## Footwörx™ PODIATRY CLINICS

*"We would like to thank all of our patients for their support and kindness over the last 12 months."*

Claire & Daniel

Located within Chipping Norton Health Centre, Footwörx is a private podiatry clinic for the treatment of common foot and ankle conditions including:

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# SCHOOLS NEWS

## Chipping Norton School

**Spring Concert:** At the end of term our school musicians and singers performed their first live concert since the start



of the Covid-19 pandemic. The concert took place at St Mary's Primary School's main hall as our own hall continues to undergo a major facelift. The audience were treated to so many wonderful performances from the Concert Band, our new Folk Band, the Sixth Form Band, our Flute Group, Choir and soloists Maisie, Abigail and Emily. The Choir finished off the wonderful evening of music with ABBA's *Thank you for the Music* – a sentiment shared by a very appreciative audience!

**Sports News:** The Year 8 boys team represented CNS and West Oxfordshire in the Football competition at Radley School. After two scoreless games and a narrow 1–0 loss the



boys responded with 2 wins and an excellent 5–0 win in their last game. Courtesy of the excellent win in the last game, CNS won the competition on goals scored!

Meanwhile our senior team continues to be unbeaten and are now into the League final after 6 wins out of 6 in the League and the cup semi-final.

We have taken part in our first Lacrosse fixture – a new sport at CNS. The Year 7 and 8 girls have been training every Friday lunchtime for the last five weeks and have worked



really hard to get skills in place before their first game. Our first opponents were Rendcomb College where Lacrosse is in the curriculum and taken seriously as two of their teachers

are England coaches! They coached our girls through the rules and gave them tips on how to improve during the afternoon and the progress was nothing short of phenomenal. Within 10 minutes, the girls had improved massively and by half time had even scored two goals. We scored again in the second half and the game ended in a very respectable 8–3 loss.

**CNPS News:** Our Sports Leaders have done a fantastic job at delivering recent sports events; including the swimming gala, netball tournament and ball skills festival. Our Dance Leaders led two Year 1 Dance festivals based on the children's book *Commotion in the Ocean*. It was fantastic to see the Year 1 pupils twirl, bounce, jump and leap their way through the activities that our Year 12s had created.



Following this, our remaining two groups of Sports Leaders successfully delivered a multi-skills event to all Year 2 and Year 3 pupils in our Partnership schools. Over the afternoon they carried out agility, balance and coordination challenges and practised their indoor athletics skills. Running through all the activities was a theme of 'beating your personal best' and showing resilience and determination in your quest to do this.

Our Science Department ran an extremely popular after-school club for Year 5 pupils. Over the course of three sessions they deliberated questions and carried out investigations based on a 'mission to Mars'. It was a pleasure to see their returning faces each week as they were desperate to get into the Science labs and learn more.

We would like to extend our thanks to all those Year 4 and Year 5 students who visited us to attend our able, interested and motivated workshops. In the Art workshop



they created mono-prints and in PE they learned about the different kinds of strength and experienced a new game called handball.

**Charitable Events:** We held a non-uniform day and cake sale to raise funds for Red Nose Day 2022. We were pleased to be able to send over £750 to Comic Relief. The Year 7s wanted to raise funds for Brainstrust; a charity which provides personalised support to people with a brain tumour and their families. On Friday 25 March, the students came to school wearing a brilliant array of hats and donated £135 to this charity.

## Holy Trinity Primary

### Sporting stars

**U11 hockey County Finals:** The Year 6 team battled it out against tough opposition at Radley School in Oxford, to come fourth out of the eight teams that had made it through regional playoffs. They were praised for their skill and great sportsmanship.



**Cross Country Finals:** KS2 children competed in the City and West Oxfordshire U9 and U11 cross country finals, having progressed through from the initial local competition. On a chilly morning the children demonstrated superb determination and were praised for their excellent demonstration of the School's games values.

**Multi-skills partnership event:** Year 2 and 3 enjoyed this sports afternoon at Chipping Norton School. They worked in



groups trying out a range of sports and developing their hand-eye coordination, ball handling and teamwork skills.

### Fundraising

**Day for the Ukraine:** Like many other schools, the children and families at Holy Trinity have been keen to support the families affected by the war in the Ukraine. We held a non-uniform day where children dressed in blue and yellow to show their support, and the School raised an astounding £1015, which the PTA has passed directly on to charities supporting those displaced from their homes. A mention also to Honour in Y6 who has mobilised her friends to join her, each walking 30 miles in April to raise money for Ukraine.

**Comic Relief and Guinness World Record Holders:** Holy Trinity were excited to participate in BBC Radio Oxford's successful Comic Relief challenge to break the Guinness world record for the largest ever game of musical bumps. In the sunshine on Red Nose Day, 174 staff and pupils boogied away on the school field, competing to become the school champion. Congratulations to Ingrid who won our school game, and to everyone who participated, who are now Guinness World Record holders! The JLT had earlier promoted the event with a live interview on BBC Radio Oxford and ran several other activities on the day such as red-nose-and-spoon races and quizzes. Thanks to the generosity of our families, we raised £204.50 for Comic Relief.

**CAFOD:** As always at this time of year, our thoughts go to members of our catholic family across the world, and the JLT have picked to support CAFOD's Lenten appeal – Walk against Hunger, as one of their chosen charities. All children have been raising money in 'change' collection boxes in their homes to donate to this good cause.

### Artistic talent

**Art competition:** Our termly art competition, sponsored by Kingham sculpture, was a great success with many children submitting artworks using a wide range of media. Judging was very tricky, but congratulations to the winners from each class, who each received an art prize. Parents enjoyed viewing the artworks in an end-of-term gallery.

**Art Workshop:** Two talented artists spent the day at the School, engaging each class in a fantastic art workshop, teaching the children how to work with charcoal. Each pupil learnt a range of stylistic techniques and finished by creating their own bird artwork.



### Trips

**Cotswold Wildlife Park:** Year 1 visited the Park to enrich their topic of Amazing Animals. They were excited to tour the park and see a wide range of animals, and enjoyed an educational talk on animal adaptations and habitats.

**Chipping Norton Theatre:** Reception Class thoroughly enjoyed seeing a performance of *Dear Zoo* at The Theatre.

### Performances Galore

**Resurrection Rock:** Years 3 and 4 have worked very hard this month on their outstanding Easter production performed to the School and to appreciative audiences of parents. The children demonstrated excellent skills in their oracy, singing, acting and seamless choreography. Well done also to the staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes on the production.

**Chipping Norton Music Festival:** Following on from the success of our choir, reported last month, Year 1 participated in the performance poetry class of the Festival. The children spoke beautifully and the adjudicator was very impressed.

**Cotswold Stage School Workshops:** Children from years 3, 4 and 5 enjoyed a thrilling day of learning about musical theatre, with singing and dancing lessons which culminated in an exhilarating and dramatic performance of 'revolting children' from the show *Matilda*. Much fun was had by all.

**Dance workshop:** Year 1 enjoyed the *Commotion in the Ocean* partnership dance workshop at Chipping Norton School. Thanks to the Sports Leaders for such a successful session.

**Mother's Day Assembly:** Reception Class performed this annual tear-jerker. The Class had painted portraits of their mummies, shared what they loved about them, and gave each a flower. It was lovely to welcome parents afterwards for tea and biscuits and to share in their children's joy.

**St Patrick's Day Assembly:** Year 2, dressed in green, performed a wonderful selection of drama, songs and jokes to an audience of parents to celebrate their class saint's day.

# SCHOOLS NEWS

## St Mary's Primary

**Drama:** On 30 March the Cotswold Stage School came to work with some children from Years 3–6. The session began with an explanation that they were going to study *Revolting Children* from *Matilda* the musical and be able to sing, dance and act out a piece. The children engaged in a physical warm



up followed by the acquisition of dance moves. They then did vocal warm ups and practised the song. The children learned how to combine song, dance and acting skills, ending with launching paper airplanes into the air to celebrate Miss Trunchbull's demise! Harry thought it was fabulous and the dancing was right up his street! Archie, Sienna and James said it was fantastic.

**Red Nose Day:** This year at St Mary's we celebrated Red Nose Day in support of Comic Relief. We marked the day in conjunction with supporting Ukrainian charities. The children dressed in blue and yellow and spent time in classes learning about the charities we were going to support.

Alongside this the whole school took part in BBC Radio Oxford's Guinness World Record attempt to hold the largest game of musical bumps. This was a new experience for all, and the children and staff enjoyed taking part in a game of musical bumps on the playground.

**Multi-skills:** On 23 March the children in Years 2 and 3 went to Chipping Norton School to take part in a partnership multi-skills session. The children were split into two countries,

Holland and France. They took part in activities focusing on co-ordination, agility, control, speed and throwing. To complete the session the two countries went head-to-head in a relay. The children had a lovely afternoon and went home very tired

**Foundation Stage:** Apple Class have been thinking about how plants grow, since reading the story *Jack and the Beanstalk*. We have each grown a bean in a plastic bag. When they sprouted, we transferred them to pots and hope to plant them in the garden when it is a bit warmer. We have also planted sunflower seeds. We have painted pictures of daffodils, found bluebells in the garden, and looked closely at the parts of some beautiful lilies. Spring is here!

## Chadlington Primary



The pupils have been on a voyage of discovery with their project *We are Space Mission Designers*, the exciting new curriculum topic at Chadlington Primary, which will be integrated across all subjects and year groups. We have been looking at exploration and explorers through time – Magellan, Ernest Shackleton, Neil Armstrong, finding out about the discoveries of scientists such as Newton and Galileo, and investigating Space and the planets. KS2 will visit the Leicester Space Centre in May, leading up to us beginning to find answers to the BIG question: Could we live on another planet?

The Chadlington School Day for Ukraine to raise money as part of an Oxfordshire-wide humanitarian appeal was very successful. Everyone wore blue and yellow to school that day and raised over £180.

In March years 2 and 3 enjoyed attending the Multi-skills Festival hosted by Chipping Norton School Partnership. This included participating in a range of sporting events and games including running, hurdles, javelin, ball skills and meeting with children from the partnership primaries.

Years 5 and 6 took part in a musical theatre *Matilda* Workshop led by Cotswold Stage School in the school hall. The children really enjoyed the opportunity to learn new skills and work with the professional leaders.

## Hook Norton Primary

Hook Norton Primary School Children raised over £2750 in four weeks for DEC's (Disasters Emergency Committee) Ukraine Appeal starting with a Bracelet & Bake Sale. A few children decided during breaktime on the school playground that they wanted to help children in the Ukraine. They hatched a plan to make bracelets in the Ukrainian flag colours and sell them at a school bake sale to support Ukraine. All the materials were donated by parents.

On the day of the sale, the positive support from the community was immense and they raised £634 in one hour! It was so popular that more people in the community heard about it and began to order bracelets after the sale. So they created a Just Giving page. In four weeks they raised £2750.

The project then grew organically when they had an opportunity to give Ukrainian women bracelets at the



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# SCHOOLS NEWS

Ukraine Polish border. They donated 118 handmade bracelets with words of 'hope' 'peace' and 'slava' that were hand delivered and distributed to refugees at the border. Now they are working on their newest sale to raise funds locally for Hooky for Ukraine to support refugees coming to Hook Norton – an impressive accomplishment by children aged from five to ten years old!

## Bledington Primary

**Residential visit to Liddington: River** – We did zip lining and we got two turns each. Then we did archery and my teacher hit six bullseyes (she should join the Olympics!) When it was dark, we played a game of Ambush in the woods, it was exciting!



**Flora C-T** – We did the vertical challenge and I wasn't that keen on it. Next we did the giant swing and it was amazing! I was on the swing with Isla and Leo. They both wanted to go to the top on the first try. I was scared but also so happy that we did it.

**Macy** – We first tried abseiling but I didn't like it. Then we went canoeing. It made me have a warm feeling inside, it was so much fun. After dinner, our night time activity was a campfire. We sang lots of songs and made up actions to a story. It was hilarious!

**Leo** – On the last day our first activity was trapeze. I got too scared the first time and didn't make it. The second time I reached out for it, grabbed it and then fell but I hung because of the safety harness. Then we did Survivor in the forest. We made a fire and a shelter and before we knew it we were on the bus coming back to school.

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## Great Rollright Primary

Our choir is in for a thrill this month – they'll be singing as part of a 6,000-child mass chorus, at a Young Voices event at the NEC in Birmingham. It's been over two years since we've been able to attend such an event, due to the pandemic, so we expect this one to be especially memorable.

*In other news:*

**Easter:** Before breaking up for the holiday, we hunted for chocolate eggs, paraded around the village in some very inventive Easter bonnets (pictured), and ended up in St Andrew's Church next door for our first Easter service in three years. Each class contributed to the service with a song, story, or prayer.



**Always Club:** seven children nominated by their teachers enjoyed a special breakfast with the headteacher. This termly club rewards children who always work hard and do their best.

**Back to Nature:** Yrs R to 2 spent a rewarding afternoon at the Pauline Flick nature reserve south of the village, helping to plant seeds and trees and learning about local plants and wildlife.

Parents and carers are encouraged to visit to see all we offer – including a free bus to Chipping Norton. Please call us on 01608 737202 to arrange your visit.

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# LETTERS

*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.*

## Skateboard park and Council spending

As Town Mayor in 1998, I invited local youngsters to a Council meeting to tell us what they wanted in the way of skateboard facilities. A lot turned up. A half pipe was decided upon. Advice was taken from a local skateboarding professional and I raised the money to build it from local businesses in the Town. It cost the ratepayers nothing. The Field Reeves reluctantly gave permission for it to be built on the Common and a local builder built it. It remained for some time, but the Field Reeves Committee removed it as soon as they possibly could, saying it attracted vandals. I would suggest that it is not the Town Council's responsibility to provide recreational facilities, as they are only a Parish Council, who were responsible for The Town Hall, Pool Meadow, The Cemetery, Closed Churchyard, bus shelters and the Common. This would be up to the District and County. As the Town has grown out of all proportion over recent years, with another 1000 houses proposed, surely the responsibility should be put on developers to provide recreational facilities and not for the Parish Council to keep putting the Chippy precept up. Where are they going to get a quarter of a million pounds from? They have already given grants to unentitled bodies. Grants to voluntary bodies are for Chipping Norton clubs and organisations, not for other areas. I would suggest also that they invest in a new flagpole on the Town Hall which is their responsibility. The so-called mechanism is a rope and pulley.

They should be looking at replacing this. Surely we should still be showing our patriotism especially with The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations coming up!

**Cicely Maunder** – Former Mayor

*(Editor's note: as reported in April's News, in the short term the Town Council aim to erect a flagpole in the Millennium Garden along West Street. It is understood that a longer-term more robust replacement on the Town Hall will be investigated.)*

## Changing times at New Street



This photograph was taken in July 1952, showing a policeman on duty stopping the traffic while council workmen painted the white lines at the top of New Street – no health and safety regulations in those days. How times have changed.

**Pat Blake**

## Remembering John Grantham

Sadly, with the passing of John Grantham, the Town has lost another great and loyal supporter. John loved Chipping Norton and it showed in the way he dedicated a large part of his life to representing the people and fighting to keep essential services. The Town has lost a true friend. From a personal view, John was a brilliant brother-in-law. We remember John the funlover, father, grandfather and great grandfather. When John returned from National Service in Hong Kong he met, fell in love with, and married my sister Marilyn. Getting involved with the Granthams was one of the best things that ever happened to the Hills. We were so proud when John and Marilyn became Mayor and Mayoress. Throughout his life John always had a young boy's sense of fun waiting to break out. We had laughs from the start. We rented Ken Harwood's caravan at West Wittering where we played endless games of cricket on the beach during the day and Newmarket for pennies and halfpennies in the evening. If you won a shilling you felt rich. Very happy times.

Our boys loved their times with Auntie Mal and Uncle John because it was always so much fun. Forty years on, they still talk about the crazy things they did with them. John even made a toy cooker, complete with oven and hot plates and a wheelbarrow for our grandchildren. John loved a game of golf followed by coffee and a bacon sandwich. After golf John would have us all in stitches as he recalled various events in his life and the things he got up to as a boy. We are so glad John was part of our lives. The happy memories he leaves with us will remain for ever. We always have and always will love John.

**Clive Hill**

*(See page 17 for full tribute)*



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# LETTERS

## More sports facilities needed

The plans for extending the Town at East Chipping Norton should provide a major opportunity to add much needed new sporting facilities and recreational space. I have joined the Town Council's East Chippy Working Group, if a little late as an amateur, to try and keep a 'sporting gain' strongly on the agenda for the development. We need to influence the County Council and other landowners the best we can. Can I record my thanks and appreciation for the work and time that the Councillors and this group are putting in, dedicated to trying to get the best results for the Town. The assembled team is very knowledgeable, hard-working and expert in their fields – and certainly seem keen to get as many recreational, sporting, and other gains for the Town. Across all topics, they hopefully can get the County Council, developers and planners to agree. We should all be watching and urging effective progress.

**Graham Beacham**

Former Mayor and organiser of Town Sports Awards

## Nancy Nolan – family notice

Nancy Nolan passed away peacefully on 21 March 2022, aged 96 years old. A devoted wife to the late Richard 'Dick', loving mother to Pat, Chris, Pete and Tim, and much loved grandmother and great grandmother. A funeral service will be held on Friday 29 April at 1pm, at Holy Trinity Church. Family flowers only, but donations for Lawrence Home Nursing c/o AL Sole & Son, Bidstone Close, Over Norton, Oxon, OX7 5PP. The family would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for their words of comfort, cards, flowers and support during this sad loss.



**Pat, Chris, Pete and Tim**

# DIARY

## May (News out Monday 25 April)

- 1<sup>st</sup> **CN Ramblers** meet 2pm New St car park see p27
- Cuppa, Cake & Chat** 2.30-4pm Methodist Church
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Churchill Teas on the Green** 2-4pm Tea, cakes, beer & bubbly + Car Boot Sale call 01608 659903 to book a pitch
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Railway Club** 7.30pm Upper Town Hall - see p27
- 4<sup>th</sup> **Methodist Coffee Morning** for Christian Aid 9.30-11.30am in the Hall see p12
- U3A** 2.30pm Town Hall - details p26
- NOOG** visit FarmED - see p27
- 5<sup>th</sup> **DISTRICT & TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS** see p2
- 7-29 **Oxfordshire Artweeks** (see centre pages) - Artweeks in North Oxfordshire runs from 21-29 May
- 8<sup>th</sup> **Blossom Day** noon-3pm Community Orchard see p5
- 9<sup>th</sup> **Crafty Cuppa & Chat** 10-12 Methodist Hall see p13
- History Society** 2pm Methodist Hall see p28
- Folk Club** 7.45 Crown Church Enstone - see p28
- 10<sup>th</sup> **Churchill Community Café** 10am-noon Village Hall see p13
- 11<sup>th</sup> **The Arts Society Cotswolds** 11am - *Carl Linneaus, Botanist and Art Appreciator* see p20

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

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- 12<sup>th</sup> **Amnesty** - 7.30 Lower Town Hall - see p28
- 13<sup>th</sup> **CHIPPING NORTON NEWS DEADLINE** - see p35
- Clarkson's Auction of Promises for the Lido** p8
- 14<sup>th</sup> **Methodist Spring Sale** in aid of Church Funds 10.30-noon in the Methodist Hall see p12
- Screen by the Green** 7.30pm Churchill Vg Hall - see p22
- 15<sup>th</sup> **Farm & Food Literature Festival** FarmED see p20
- 16<sup>th</sup> **Town Council: full council meeting** Election of Mayor & Deputy, Mayormaking 7.15pm Upper Town Hall see p4
- West Ox WI** 7.30pm Parish Rooms Julia Miles - Ragbag & Cocktails: 20 Years as a Diplomatic Wife see p26
- 21<sup>st</sup> **Farmers Market** 8.30am-1pm
- 21-29 **ARTWEEKS in N Oxfordshire** see centre pages
- 23<sup>rd</sup> **Annual Town Meeting** 7pm Town Hall see p4
- 25<sup>th</sup> **Town Council Community Cttee** 6.30pm Town Hall

## June (News out Monday 30 May)

- 1<sup>st</sup> **NOOG** visit N Oxon Organics - see p27
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Right Royal Quiz** Royal British Legion 7.30pm see p6
- 5<sup>th</sup> **Town Festival** - see advert on back page
- CN Ramblers** meet 2pm New St car park see p27
- Cuppa, Cake & Chat Special** 2.30-4 Methodist Church
- 7<sup>th</sup> **Railway Club** 7.30pm Upper Town Hall - see p27

# Chipping Norton TOWN FESTIVAL

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022

It's nearly here! Looking forward to a great day together at this year's Town Festival as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Programmes and raffle tickets will be on sale around the town from Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May. We have a great line-up for the day starting with the British Legion, along with military vehicles, processing down the High Street then a local celebrity officially opening the Festival at 10.50 am in the Market Square. There will be music, children's rides and a wide variety of market and food stalls for you to browse. Keep a look out for final updates on our Facebook page @chippingnortontownfestival.

Town Festival 2019 Highlights



This is a free event and all proceeds go towards local charities and organisations in the Town so come along and give it your support. We want to give a huge shout out to our sponsors Owen Mumford, Wigwam, The Co-op and Chancellors. If you would like to help on the day or for any further enquiries, please email [cntownfestival@gmail.com](mailto:cntownfestival@gmail.com).

## Chipping Norton TOWN FESTIVAL

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022

