# Blewbury Bulletin Number 656 September 2023

### **NEW PARENT AT BLEWBURY SCHOOL?**

Parents - to help you have a good experience on that first day of school, you are invited to **REST-A-WHILE** after you have dropped your children off at Blewbury School on Tuesday 5th September. The Vale Room, Blewbury Village Hall will be open from 8.30am - 10am for you to chat with others in the same situation and have some refreshment. There will be an area where younger children can play. Organised by the local Mothers' Union which supports families. Any queries, contact Louise 07837 009730



### **BLEWBURTON, BOTTLED!**

Blewburton Hill has long stood muse to painters, players, authors and artisans. And now the natural beauty and distinct heritage of our local environment has inspired a gin! My G&T journey began back in February after a conversation with Hawkridge Distillery, just over the Ridgeway in Compton. Their award-winning traditional London Dry Gin base, crafted using the Victorian tea method to draw out classic juniper and citrus flavours and deliver a richer, smoother mouth feel, has been accented with botanicals gathered from Blewbury.

Under the guidance of local eco expert and gin fancier Glen Meadows, watercress has been drawn from the crystal chalk streams of Watery Lane and flowering nettle tips foraged from the fringes of the Play Close. It requires a surprisingly small amount of each, so no chalk streams or verges were harmed in the making of the distillate! Meadowsweet and blackcurrant leaf bring a breath of pasture and hedgerow, whilst rose and lavender offer a fleeting glimpse of picturesque cottage gardens. This gin truly evokes a sense of place, even before you even remove the cork. Resident artist and embroidery enchantress Yvette Philips has created the beautiful label – a Chalk Hill Blue butterfly surrounded by wild thyme, as found on the Hill. She also, under huge duress, lent her gin-honed palette in the quest to find the perfect blend for Blewbury.

Each bottle will capture and conserve our ancient and valuable environment with a share of profits contributing to the Blewbury Chalk Stream Community. Available soon at various village events. Register at www.blewburtonhill.co.uk to make sure you get to try a tipple. *Andy Jarvis* 

### CLUBS AND SOCIETIES EVENT, SUNDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER, 2-4 PM

Would you like to find out more about all the exciting things that go on in Blewbury? We will be hosting a Clubs and Societies event on the afternoon of Sunday 24th September in the Village Hall. This is a sort of "freshers' fair" for the village, open to all who live here and beyond. Come along to chat with your fellow villagers and find out more, and bring your friends and family: Blewbury has something for everyone, at all ages! We will be providing complimentary tea/coffee and cake during the event.



### **CHURCH TEAS 2023**

The last Church Teas in St Michael's will be on Sunday 27th August 3 - 5. Thanks to everybody who supported teas this year - we have had some great company and very lively discussions. *Pat and all the Team* 

### PRE-SCHOOL LOTTERY RESULTS

Winning numbers for the July Blewbury Pre-School Lottery were as follows: 1st - 086; 2nd - 018; 3rd - 015. For August, the winning numbers were: 1st - 009; 2nd - 084; 3rd - 045. Congratulations to all the winners. Over the last six months the lottery has brought in over £1,600 for Blewbury Pre-School! A big thank you to all our members. To join the Blewbury Pre-School Lottery visit www.blewburypreschool.co.uk, or email us at lottery@blewburypreschool.co.uk.

### **BULLETIN STOP PRESS SERVICE**

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#### COULD YOU HELP BLEWBURY'S LOCAL WILDLIFE CHARITY?

Blewbury Parish Council representatives visited Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue (OWR) on Woodway at the end of June. OWR is a charity whose purpose is to rescue, rehabilitate and release injured, sick or orphaned British wildlife. They cared for around 3,000 animals last year – from frogs, blue tits, hedgehogs and birds of prey, to foxes, badgers and fallow deer. OWR aims to grow and provide a wildlife hospital with rehabilitation areas, pens for deer and other larger mammals, and aviaries for rescued birds. They also want to provide opportunities to educate children and adults about Britain's wildlife. The charity is looking for one to five acres of land which could, subject to planning permission, be used for the purpose described above. If you have land which could accommodate OWR, the charity would like to stay in Blewbury. Please contact Anni on <a href="mailto:owr.general@gmail.com">owr.general@gmail.com</a>. (N.B. visits are by appointment only.)

### **BLEWBURY BADMINTON CLUB - NEW SEASON STARTING THURSDAY 7 SEPTEMBER**

Come and join our friendly, social club - we welcome new members of all abilities.

We play every Thursday evening in Blewbury Village Hall from 8pm and our season runs from 7 September through to the end of April.

Membership is £60 for the whole season (£30 for 18-25 year olds).

Free taster session – come and give it a go! For further information please contact Penny - 01235 850082





### THANKS FOR HELPING US TO HELP OTHERS

We would like to thank everyone who has generously donated to help local people who have been struggling financially in the current economic climate.

We are pleased to have been able to help an increased number of individuals and families in Blewbury, Upton and the Astons with funds as they found themselves unable to pay for life's essentials. This has led to a considerable decline in our funds and we are therefore reaching out to the local community for help again any amount would be greatly appreciated and can be donated through our Just Giving page www.justgiving.com/ucab

We thank you very much in advance for your help and if you have any questions, please do get in touch with us by email unitedcharities@outlook.com.

United Charities of the Ancient Parish of Blewbury Registered Charity No: 203538



### **TONY LOY TRUST**

The aim of the Tony Loy Trust (The TLT) is to advance the education and support the development of, and provide opportunities for, children and young people under the age of 25 in Blewbury and the neighbouring area in the arts and sport. This will include: providing grants, allowances or scholarships;

supporting training; and assisting travel, events or projects. We are more than happy to receive and consider applications. If you would like to be considered, please write to the Trustees with a brief outline of what you are intending to do and how you might use any financial support.

The Trustees, 24 Grahame Close, Blewbury OX11 9QE

Email: sloy24@gmail.com Website: www.thetonyloytrust.org



### NEXT FOOD BANK DATES: 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER – 11 SEPTEMBER 2023

You may have heard in the local news that **Didcot Emergency Foodbank** is having to restrict access to their services due to very high demand. If you are able to give even one item, collection boxes are outside the Charity School House on these dates or at Blewbury Post Office any time. They ask for: -

- Tins of meat / fish / potatoes / carrots / peas / soup / fruit / puddings
- Jars of pasta sauces / jam / peanut butter / coffee (small)
- Packets of pasta / rice / packets dried potato / breakfast cereals / biscuits / treats / tea
- Cartons of long-life milk / long-life juice / hot chocolate
- toiletries, toilet rolls, tissues & laundry products, washing up liquid
- Please make sure that all food is within its sell by date.
- Foodbank cannot accept alcohol, razors, medicines, or homemade preserves.

ALL DONATIONS ARE HUGELY APPRECIATED -- SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

CASH DONATIONS HOWEVER SMALL ARE VERY WELCOME - To make a cash donation
on line - visit https://churchsuite.co.uk/donate/and select Foodbank.

Many thanks - St Michael's Action Group & Didcot Food Bank



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#### **CALLING ALL OWNERS OF ORIGINAL RON FREEBORNS!**

I very much enjoyed living in Blewbury for 27 years, taking part in the operas and other musical activities until moving away in 1991, but have very little to remind me of those wonderful times. There is a space on a wall in my new home that would be just right for a picture of Blewbury, so if anyone is thinking of selling a Ron Freeborn painting of the village, or of village activities, please do get in touch. *Richard Gotch richard@richardgotch.com* 

### **BLEWBURY VILLAGE SOCIETY**

### Summer Dance - Saturday 24th June

It seems like such a long time ago now, but the BVS would like to say a huge thank you to our generous hosts the Barrett family; the fantastic band, McFunky; and all the helpers at the Summer Dance. A great time was had by all!



Clubs and Societies event, Sunday 24th September, 2–4 pm - See front page

### Fireworks Night, Saturday 4th November

The BVS Fireworks Night is back this year, so put the date in your diary! It will be held on Saturday 4th November in Tickers Folly Field. The bar and baked potato stalls will be back, under our beautiful new marquee. We will have the usual wood collection beforehand and will be charging a small fee for this. More details on how to get your address on the list for pickup will follow in the October Bulletin.

We need lots of helpers for this event – in particular with wood collection and potato baking beforehand, and with setup and refreshment serving on the night. If you would be able to help out at all or have any queries, please get in touch at <a href="mailto:blewburybvs@gmail.com">blewburybvs@gmail.com</a>. We'd love to hear from you!

### **BLEWBURY GARDEN MARKET**

Blewbury Garden Market is no longer part of Sustainable Blewbury, but is continuing at Blewbury Filling Station much as before, **every Saturday through 23 September from 9.15 am to 11.15 am**, selling fresh garden produce, pastries, preserves, local honey, flowers, etc. We accept both cash and cashless payments.

Bring items to sell before 9.15 and we'll try to sell them. You set your own prices and get 90% of sales; we keep 10% to cover our own expenses. For details, call Eric on 07935 232296 or email <a href="mailto:info@sustainable-blewbury.org.uk">info@sustainable-blewbury.org.uk</a>.



### **HELP WITH ESSENTIAL LIVING COSTS**

We are a local charity which supports people living in Blewbury, the Astons and Upton who are unable to meet essential living costs. If you are struggling to pay for essential items such as food, energy or school clothing and equipment for the new term we can provide modest one off

payments to help you, or someone you know in need.

To apply there is a short application form to complete which can be picked up from the Post Office, the North Porch of St Michaels Church or requested by email to <a href="mailto:unitedcharities@outlook.com">unitedcharities@outlook.com</a>. We can help you fill in the form if needed. All applications are assessed on an individual basis but, as our funds are limited, we give priority to those in receipt of benefits such as Universal Credit, Tax Credits and Pension Credit or those suffering from ill health or other vulnerability. Please don't be reluctant to ask for help, all applications are dealt with confidentially.

United Charities of the Ancient Parish of Blewbury Registered Charity No: 203538

### **BLEWSING - BLEWBURY CHOIR**

We are delighted to announce BlewSing rehearsal dates for the Autumn. We meet weekly and recommence on Thursday September 7<sup>th</sup>. We meet at the Melland Room in the Clubhouse at Blewbury Recreation Ground. For further dates - see our website – details below.



The choir always sings for pleasure. There are no auditions and no requirement to read music; the only requirement is simply a love of singing. If you would like to join us and/or would like further information, please contact <a href="mailto:sloy24@gmail.com">sloy24@gmail.com</a> or have a look at our website: <a href="http://www.blewsing.org/">http://www.blewsing.org/</a>





#### Dear Esteemed Composers, performers and all-round supporters,

Thanks so much for the superb response following our inaugural meeting in June. Subsequently, we have over 50 *euro* fans on board, but there is still time for singers, actors, dancers, set builders, crew etc to get involved. Email for more information <a href="mailto:blewburyplayers@gmail.com">blewburyplayers@gmail.com</a>. Key dates are:

Song entry deadline: September 1st

Box Office online October 6<sup>th</sup> www.blewburyplayers.co.uk (12 countries/tables of 10 ten are looking for your

support! Tickets: £15 each.)

Performances: Thursday November 30<sup>th</sup>, Friday December 1<sup>st</sup>, Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **AUTUMN GIFT FAIR**

In aid of Newbury Riding for the Disabled

**TUESDAY 19th SEPTEMBER** 5pm - 8.30pm entry £10\*

\*includes a welcome drink & entrance for the following day

WEDNESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 9:30am - 4pm entry £5

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### Shakespeare In Love, 2023.

This was one of our biggest and most elaborate productions to date. It didn't disappoint. We had record breaking ticket sales, with all but a handful of matinee tickets sold. Amazing set, swords, impressive number of beautiful costume changes, trapdoors, dancing, singing and live music ...and a dog!

As a Company we would like to applaud the Saturday audiences for their determination, arriving dressed for the weather and continuing to laugh and applaud throughout! You were amazing!

We've had some lovely feedback too... Thank you so much for all sharing how much you enjoyed it!

If you missed a performance or want to reminisce, we have posted the following on our website @ www.blewburyplayers.co.uk/productions

- Production photos
- Video of a performance of Shakespeare In Love (temporarily available)
- Video of Chris Whatmore's talk "From Shakespeare on stage to Shakespeare in Love"

### The Caucasian Chalk Circle, 2024.

We are pleased to announce that the production for July 2024 will be *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* by Bertolt Brecht – directed by Erica Harley. Erica has previously directed *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Visit* for the Blewbury Players. Erica will be telling us about the Play and her vision for this production on Friday October 6th 7.30 pm at the Melland Room. This is an open invitation.



### **Music Quiz**

11 November Blewbury Village Hall More information nearer the time

### **BRIDGE CLUB**

Advance notice that the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Vale Room at 7pm on Tuesday 10th October, ahead of a slightly shorter session of bridge. Nominations for new Officers of the Club or Committee Members should be notified to the Secretary or Chairman at least one week in advance of the meeting. Similarly, any issues for discussion under Any Other Business should also be notified at least a week in advance. An agenda will be circulated in due course.

It is hoped that we will be able to re-start Friday evening Social Bridge sessions on September 1st. So, dates planned for September will be 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. Anyone who would like to be added to the circulation list for these events should inform the Chairman.

Dates for Realbridge with Wantage Bridge Club on Thursdays will be the 7th and 21st. Our own BBO sessions will run on the other Thursdays - the 14th and 28th.

The Club will be represented at the Clubs and Societies event in the Village Hall on Sunday 24th September. Volunteers to assist in manning our stand would be welcome. *Michael Allen 851870* 

### **COFFEE & KIDS!**

Blewbury baby and toddler group re-starts after the summer break on **Monday 11th September** in the Vale Room, Blewbury Village Hall, 9.30am - 11am. Toys, play, chat and refreshments with singing near the end of the session, in a safe and friendly environment. Mothers' Union hosts look forward to welcoming you. A donation of £2 is appreciated towards our costs. Louise - 07837 009730

### JAZZ AT MOCKBEGGARS

### Saturday September 30th: Jo Harrop trio with Paul Edis (piano) and John Williamson (double bass)

Effortlessly blurring the lines between jazz and folk, it is achingly beautiful music, that is so shot through with pathos and pain, it could melt the hardest of hearts. The Guardian dubbed her work 'a little gem: simple, modest and perfect,' whilst BBC 6 Music's Iggy Pop fell in love with her voice, calling her "a very fine jazz singer." Warm, smoky and capable of the most delicate dynamics, Jo Harrop's mellifluous voice reveals a rarely found intimacy.

Mockbeggars Hall, Church End, Blewbury OX11 9QQ Doors open 7.30 pm

Private house concert, tickets £30. Strictly advance bookings and payment via <a href="mailto:lzabela@dircon.co.uk">lzabela@dircon.co.uk</a>

### **OUTDOOR CINEMA IN SUPPORT OF STYLE ACRE**

Saturday 16th September at Howbery Park, Wallingford. Tickets and cinema snack bags are on sale now on the Style Acre website! Bring your chairs, bean bags, or blankets and settle down to watch:

2.00pm: Matilda the Musical 5.00pm: Dirty Dancing

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### **BLEWBURY POST OFFICE NEWS**

Thank you everyone for being so understanding about our 'summer' hours: I had holidays booked, with no extra cover! Our opening times are back to normal from Monday 4th September, and I'm really hopeful that Sarah will be taking over on Tuesday 12th, if that is the actual day, then we'll be closed until around 10.30/11am, while an auditor goes through everything, and I can retire! Andrew and I will still be working one day a week each, (our usual hours, Tuesday and Friday) and the other days will be 9-3. I've been told there's a chance of us getting some of the Charlie coronation 50p! Love from Karen, Maggie, Andrew and Sarah



#### **DIDCOT & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE**

D&D U3A meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm at Didcot Civic Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to one meeting as a taster before joining. On **19th September** there will be a talk entitled *A Brief History of Tattoos and Their Meaning* by

Janine Kilroe. Contact: chairman@didcotu3a.org or secretary@didcotu3a.org or www.u3asites.org.uk/didcot.







### APPLE JUICING 2023: Sunday afternoons, 2-4 pm at Blewbury Manor on:

### \* 20 August \* 10 September \* 24 September \* 8 October \* 22 October \*

Bring WASHED APPLES (bad bits removed, but no need to remove cores) and your own clean bottles or containers.

(Sorry, we can't supply bottles.) **COST**: £1.50 to press a large bucket or basket of apples.

**PASTEURISING:** Needs <u>GLASS</u> <u>screw-top</u> wine or drink bottles. **COST:** 30p per bottle (juice will keep for a year). Pasteurisation takes a while so you *must* arrive well before 3.00 pm (note that you can also freeze unpasteurised juice in plastic bottles).

### APPLES that won't keep? TOO MANY apples for our public sessions?

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£15 in Blewbury and Upton, £20 elsewhere
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**<u>Blewbury Nature Reserve:</u>** Now open again after ground-nesting season. Thanks to Mark Shayler for giving two benches for everyone to enjoy and to Thames Water for installing two eco-towers.

**Community Orchard:** Note that fruit in the orchard can be picked freely, but do leave enough for others.

Repair Cafe: We hope to hold the next one in September, probably on Sunday 17th.

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Getting involved in Sustainable Blewbury contributes to the village and its environment. To participate, email us at: <a href="mailto:info@sustainable-blewbury.org.uk">info@sustainable-blewbury.org.uk</a> or phone 01235 850372.



### **BLEWBURY WI NEWS**

At our July monthly meeting we had a fascinating talk by a gentleman wearing a cod piece (don't ask). During the summer we have had a Garden party and a visit to a private village garden. We have now started our own book club, thanks to Karen Forman. The usual craft, Scrabble, Mah Jong and walks have

Our next main monthly meeting is on Wednesday 27 September at 7.30pm in the Vale Room. We will learn about "Oxford's penicillin". The drug we use today was developed by a group of scientists based in Oxford. We will hear the story of the life-saving work carried out plus the trials and tribulations that the scientists faced and the experiences of the first patients to be treated with penicillin.

We love to have visitors, if you'd like to come along with someone else or find out more, ring our Secretary, Joy, on 850543 or email <a href="mailto:blewburywi@gmail.com">blewburywi@gmail.com</a>. You will be made so welcome - we all love to meet new friends. So, if you are new to the village or have been here for a while, do come along.

### Calendar of events

Every Monday afternoon	2.30pm	Afternoon Mah Jong	Sharon 850412
Wednesday 30 August	2.30pm	Evening Scrabble	Joy 850543
Friday 1 September	7pm	Craft evening	Val 851203
Tuesday 5 September	2.30pm	Afternoon Scrabble	Sharon 850412
Wednesday 6 September	9.30am	Lyn's walk	Lyn 850795
Thursday 14 September	10.30am	Coffee morning	Trish 850997

### SKY DIVE FOR MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE ASSOCIATION

Weather permitted on Saturday 24th June for John Aldridge and family. All seven completed a successful tandem sky dive in June Hall's memory. Over £3,300 has been raised for MNDA.

A huge thank you to all who donated. Sally Aldridge



### **News from St. Michael's**

**Rector - The Revd Jason St. John Nicolle BENEFICE OFFICE - 01235 850267** 

You can contact the clergy & staff on: -

### **Father Jason St John Nicolle**

01235 850267 rector@churnchurches.co.uk

### **Revd John Clarke**

01235 510073 jphclarke@gmail.com

### **Revd Dr Mark Rhodes-Smith**

01235 850267 mark.rhodes-smith@churnchurches.co.uk

Elaine de Ridder, Operations Manager, is available Monday to Friday from 9.00-2.30 pm on 01235 850267, 07434 686044 or via email office@churnchurches.co.uk. Website www.churnchurches.co.uk

Bookings for Weddings, Baptisms and funerals may be made by contacting the office via email or on the office number.

Services for September 2023 at St Michael's Church:			
TRINITY 13	† Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.00 am	<b>Holy Communion</b>
		10.30 am	All Age Service
TRINITY 14	† Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist
TRINITY 15	† Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Choir-led Taizé Service
	Thursday 21st	10.00 am	MU Holy Communion
TRINITY 16	† Sunday 24th	10.30 am	Patronal Festival:
	-		Parish Eucharist

In addition to the services in Church, we continue to have an **online service at 10.30 am every Sunday** via the link <a href="https://meet.goto.com/ChurnBenefice/sundayservice">https://meet.goto.com/ChurnBenefice/sundayservice</a>. We also have **online Compline at 8pm during weekdays** via link <a href="https://meet.goto.com/312446493">https://meet.goto.com/312446493</a>.

Everyone is invited to the mid-week communion service **every Wednesday at 10am at St Andrew's Hagbourne**.

Please contact the Office if you would like to receive the Churn newsletter by email every Friday. You can unsubscribe at any time.

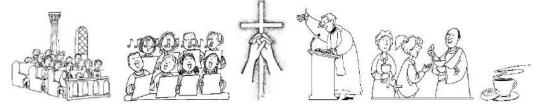


Congratulations to **Chloe Ebsworth and Carl Clibbon** who were married in St Michael's Blewbury on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> August.

We pray for God's blessing on them as they continue to build their lives together.

### **CHURCH TEAS 2023**

The last Church Teas will be on Sunday 27th August, 3-5pm. Thanks to everybody who supported teas this year! We have had some great company and very lively discussions. - Pat and all the Team



### **ALWAYS WONDERED WHAT WE ACTUALLY DO?!**

As a Christian Church we are seeking to love God and neighbour, and everyone is welcome! We are here through life's ups and downs.

Please come and say hello at the **BVS CLUBS AND SOCIETIES OPEN DAY** to find out more! **24 September 2023 in the Village Hall 2pm and 4pm** 





### St. Michael and All Angels'

### **Patronal Festival**

### **Sunday 24 September 2023 - 10.30am**

All are warmly invited to join together for this special celebration.

### What is School for?

For many people, September is a significant month because it marks the start of the new school year. It can be an exciting time, but it can also be a time of some anxiety: will the children settle in their new class or new school? Will they get on with their new teacher? Will they find it easy to make new friends?

We are very fortunate in our country to have access to an excellent education system. Most of the schools in our country are pretty good and some are absolutely outstanding. We are fortunate to have three excellent primary schools serving the villages of the Benefice:



Blewbury Church of England Primary School; Hagbourne Church of England Primary School; and South Moreton Primary School. And once children have left primary school, there are many excellent local Secondary Schools to choose from.

We take the provision of schools for granted, but seldom ask ourselves the question: what are schools for? In other words, what is the aim of our education system?

The Government view is that education is basically about providing children with the skills they need to enter the work force and to lead economically productive lives. In short, the Government's focus is on education as preparing children for the world of work. This is, of course, important.

But there are other ways of looking at the purpose of education. For example we can focus on the idea of human flourishing: helping children to grow into adults who are able to live a fulfilled and meaningful life. This means that we need to learn how to look after our physical and mental health, to form strong relationships, and to contribute to the well-being of our communities.

Another approach focusses on education as sowing the seeds of effective citizenship: helping children grow into adults who have the skills and the willingness to exercise their vote in a responsible manner, and to contribute actively to the political life of the country, at local and national level.

You may be interested to know that the Church of England takes the view that education is basically about human flourishing: giving every child the skills and experiences they need to enable them to flourish, regardless of what they happen to believe and regardless of their contribution to the economic system. I wonder if you would agree?

- Father Jason

### The Drop-In Coffee Morning

Every Wednesday 10.30am to 12noon Benefice Centre ("Church Office"), Blewbury



All welcome to drop in for coffee & a chat. Run by the Churn Branch of the Mother's Union.

### **Food Bank Collection**

### Saturday 2 Sept - Monday 11 Sept 2023



You might've heard in the local news that Didcot Emergency Foodbank is having to restrict access to their services due to very high demand. Donations can be dropped off at the Old School House between the dates above or at the Post Office anytime. You can also donate at both Sainsbury's branches in Didcot. They need:

- Tins of meat / fish / potatoes / carrots / peas / soup / fruit / puddings
- Jars of pasta sauces / jam / peanut butter / coffee (small)
- Packets of pasta / rice / packets dried potato / breakfast cereals / biscuits / treats / tea
- Cartons of long-life milk / long-life juice / hot chocolate
- toiletries, toilet rolls, & clothes-wash items.

NO alcohol, razors, medicines, or homemade preserves

Your generosity would very much be appreciated! Many thanks, St Michael's Action Group

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#### **BLEWSHED NEWS**

After a summer break BlewShed is back in action with various projects and a new 'production line' of garden 'trugs' (wooden baskets). Designed by BlewShed members and using discarded broken or non-returnable wooden pallets from Savages, we make these trugs and then take them back over the road to Savages where they are a proving to be very popular; a handy and useful garden item. The trugs are also on sale at the garden produce stall on London Road on



Saturdays. They are ecologically-friendly using recycled material and involving no transport miles.

**Community Projects:** Work is underway on a bench for Tickers Folly recreation ground. Being constructed from highly durable, recycled ironbark eucalyptus, we expect to complete this by the autumn.

**Meetings:** At our July club night members revealed results of their own home projects with Mike Magnay explaining how he designed and built an exquisite, accurate '12th scale replica Napoleonic 12lb artillery cannon to the Gribeauval system', Phil Farrand with his hand built, working model steam engines and Mike Wrottesley a hand-carved wooden rocking horse on bow rockers.

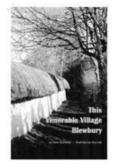
At our next meeting on Tuesday, 12th September, 7.30pm, local historian Peter Cockrell will be giving an illustrated talk on 'Duck Punts'. All are welcome.

**Opening times and membership:** Regular Shed opening times are Tuesday and Saturday afternoons 1.30-4.00 pm. BlewShed is also open on Thursday afternoons 1.30-4pm for those with a special interest in electronics.

BlewShed annual membership fee is £25 and is excellent value, that not only includes expert advice from fellow members but also the use of a very well-equipped workshop. Come and learn some new skills!

'Club night' meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30-9pm in the Shed (opposite the tennis club) and everyone is welcome, whether or not you are a member. We look forward to seeing you.

Mike Wrottesley, BlewShed secretary <a href="https://blewshed.home.blog/news/">https://blewshed.home.blog/news/</a>



### **BLEWBURY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 12 September at 8pm in our room at the back of Robinsons. You are all welcome to join us and find out what we do! We will also be present at the Village Clubs and Societies Event on Sunday 24 September in the Village Hall.

At the moment we are looking at how to preserve the Miser's coat which was worn by the village curate "Miser Jones" between 1780 and 1823 and we are also continuing to interview long standing village residents for their memories of Blewbury. We would be very interested to talk to anybody who has memories of the village, just let us know!

Audrey Long 01235 850427 or Mary Gaines 850728.

### New Family Choir starting this September!

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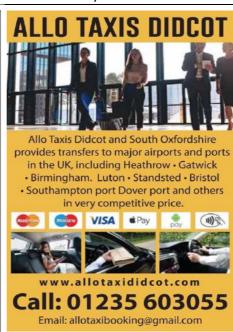
If so, join our new

Happy Voices Family Choir A choir for family members of all ages

Starts Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September from 6 – 6.45pm In The Benefice Centre, Blewbury, for a short time of musical fun

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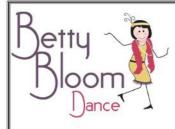
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#### **BLEWBURY SCHOOL 2023 GOVERNORS' REPORT**

The 2022/23 school year has been another busy and successful year for our School. It has also been challenging for all schools throughout the country adjusting to the return to normality, after all the disruptions experienced during the Covid pandemic. We are hugely grateful to our headteacher and her staff for all that has been done to ensure that the children received an exciting curriculum and have continued to make such good progress. The School's core values of Love; Resilience; Appreciation and Forgiveness have been more important than ever

in moving the School forward. These values along with a terrific team effort between staff, children, parents, governors and the wider community means that the School continues to grow in strength and resilience and has great aspirations for the future. It is an exciting place to be as it continues on an upward trajectory.

At the end of the year, as usual, we said goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. They have proved themselves to be mature and resourceful and we wish them every success in their new secondary schools. We also said goodbye to one of our well established teachers, Mrs Calvert, who after her maternity leave obtained a new post, closer to where she lives, and to Maxine Evans and Matt Cole, who have both left the Governing Board.

In September we are excited to be welcoming Mr Sam Coleman, who will be joining us as Assistant Headteacher. He will be working alongside Jo Reeder and the others in the senior leadership team, and will also be class teaching three days a week, as well as heading up our work with pupils with Special Educational Needs. We also have some new members on the School Governing Board, which now includes Lesley Botchway, Vaughan Humphries, Swati Deb and Katie Dickens. We are grateful to them for their willingness to join at this time of change and rebuilding. Finally, may we thank all of you, who have been supporting the School, in all sorts of ways, as it works to continue to provide excellent opportunities to all our pupils from Blewbury and the surrounding area..

(This report is based upon the School Governor's Annual Report to parents and carers. The full version can be found on the School website at <a href="https://blewbury.oxon.sch.uk">https://blewbury.oxon.sch.uk</a>)

### **NEWS FROM THE RED LION**

It's August and the grass in The Red Lion garden has never looked greener; Autumn will be upon us before we know it! Soon the guest ales from Rebellion, Uley, Love Beer and Loose Cannon will be changing from citrus gold to a malty brown. Likewise our ever-growing variety of street food will please an even wider range of palates and diets.



**Music** – The Red Lion is re-establishing itself as a top spot for a wide range of musical talents to suit all tastes and occasions. Most recently, these have included funky folk quartet The Night Herons, international vocal artiste Gemma Louise Doyle, our young local hero George Parker and last but not least The Didcot Ukulele Band. Our Open Mic Night recently doubled as an audition for ITV's programme The Voice, and we hope that some of the talent will reach the selectors eye - watch this space! Next up are Dr. Zeus and the Olympians on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August, Open Mic at the earlier time from 5pm on Bank Holiday Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August. Amanda on 31<sup>st</sup> August, Gemma Louise Doyle on 7<sup>th</sup> Sept, Darren Hunt on 14<sup>th</sup> Sept and Horizon on 21<sup>st</sup> Sept.

Bespoke events – We can cater for a wide range of special occasions, whether

inside in Katie's Corner or outside in the garden or under the stretch tent. Lately we've hosted a 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday for 50 sit-

down hog roast dinner, a Croquet Club luncheon, a pop up Sports Bar for the Wimbledon finals, a 'Shakespeare in Love' après-show party, a three-day symposium for a group of international scientists and reunions for the Queens Lancashire Regiment and the 17<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Lancers (the famous "Death or Glory" Boys). Home cooking for these tailored events has included breast of hoisin duck, rolled shoulder of crackling pork, fillet of rare beef, seafood wellington and brandy mushroom and beef stroganoff.

### So what's on the race card for September/October?

As well as all the music, there's a raft of upcoming events comprising more Combo Thursdays, games, wine and quiz nights. We'll be getting spooky



with our Halloween pumpkin carving competition, followed swiftly by a proper Guy Fawkes Night of bangers and beer! So if you're looking to reunite or get together and celebrate with family and friends, then The Red Lion is the place to be. Don't wait too long - we're already receiving bookings for Christmas...!

### **CHOLSEY REPAIR CAFÉ**

Cholsey Repair Café's next session will be on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September at the Cholsey Pavilion on Station Road, from 11.00 opening to 13.45 close. All sorts of repairs to domestic items can be considered, on the basis that, although repair assistance is free of charge, spare parts are paid for and a donation towards running costs is appreciated.



#### **VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

Some of you will have noticed that the village hall car park has had a bit of work done, a new pavement around the entrance to Heather Way, new drains outside the main door to prevent flooding, and new curbing.

We will be taking part in the clubs and societies day on the 24th, with people to show us how to navigate the Hallmaster online booking system, and answering questions.

We will also be holding our annual User Group meeting, Monday 11th September 7pm in the Vale room, please join us to give us feedback on your experiences in the village hall, and how we can improve things.

### **NATURE NOTES**

"Then suddenly the Mole felt great awe upon him, an awe that turned his muscles to water, bowed his head, and rooted his feet to the ground. It was no panic terror, indeed he felt wonderfully at peace and happy."

The Wind in the Willows, Kenneth Grahame, 1908

I was excited to read about the discovery of two new mole species in Turkey. These new species of mountain mole can survive 50°C temperature in the summer and over two metres of snow in the winter. It's very rare to find new species of mammal nowadays, as most of the 6,500 species of have been described for some time. The researchers used cutting-edge DNA techniques. As these methods become established, I'm sure more of nature's diversity will be revealed.

The last mole I saw was on holiday in Poland this year. I was observing a group of storks. These are one of Europe's largest birds, with a wingspan of over two metres. Normally they feed on frogs and grasshoppers, but on this occasion the stork plunged its 20 cm bill deep into the ground. Seconds later an impaled mole appeared and was very shortly gulped down in one! We have one species of mole in the UK, *Talpa europaea*. In my native Suffolk they are known as 'Mouldywarps'. Moles are very distinctive, with their tiny eyes and a constantly roving, fleshy, pink nose. They are perfectly evolved for tunnelling with shovel-like hands and large claws. The thick, velvety, black fur reduces friction underground. Generally, they live no more than three years, but can be as long-lived as six. Earthworms are their main source of prey, which they can store alive in a larder chamber for later consumption. Both sexes live alone for most of the year, in separate territories. Males then enlarge their tunnel system and nest chambers are added during the breeding season in spring.

Despite the moles' continued persecution (and undoubted annoyance to gardeners and farmers alike), they have always been popular characters in fiction. From Blewbury's very own Kenneth Grahame to more modern outings in *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse*. In folklore they have always been associated with the underworld and dark magic. Moles' hands were often kept as a 'cure' for rheumatism. Mole blood could eliminate warts, powdered mole would prevent 'ague' (the 15<sup>th</sup> century name for malaria, a common diseases of the Fens). One of the 'witches' of Belvoir (executed in 1618) was alleged to have used a mole as a 'familiar'. *Glen Meadows* 

### FROM OUR CANADIAN CORRESPONDENT

We are just back from a delightful weekend staying with friends in Kelowna, situated in the stunningly beautiful Okanagan Valley that is home to over 40 vineyards within a 20 minute drive. In addition to wine sampling, there are other attractions including the Kettle Valley Steam Railway, at Summerland, about an hour's drive from Kelowna, on the unceded territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) Nations, which we experienced during the weekend. In the early 1900s, Summerland was touted to Canada's wealthiest businessmen as the ideal place to invest in an orchard and was known as Millionaire's Row.

On the only preserved section of this historic railway, the 90 minute journey travels passes through lush vineyards and orchards and ends at the Trout Creek trestle bridge high above the canyon floor at the edge of the Okanagan Lake. The 1912 steam locomotive was originally built in Montreal as a coal burning locomotive but converted to oil in 1929. It was lovingly preserved and restored in 1975, and pulls two closed carriages and two open cattle trucks (but with seating!). In the Christmas season the locomotive is decorated with fairy lights, and you can also book a special experience where the train is robbed by gangsters who donate the money they "steal" to local worthy charities, after which the passengers can recover from this trauma by having lunch back at the station. The train can also be hired for special events such as birthdays. For train nerds, the engine weighs 170 tons, the tender carries 10000 gallons of water and 3616 gallons of oil, and is powerful enough to carry plenty of passengers. During its long history it has starred in many movies and commercials, and when its operating career with BC Rail came to an end in 2001, the Kettle Valley Rail Society put in a bid for the lease of the engine, upon acceptance of which it was renamed "the Spirit of Summerland". The railway was originally built in 1910-1915 to carry the pioneer fruit production from the "Kootenay to Coast connection", creating employment as well as transporting families on vacations. During its 16 km journey it crosses several roads, warning motorists with its haunting whistle and bell. A most enjoyable excursion! *Angela Hoy (angelahoy23@gmail.com)* 

#### LETTER FROM DAVID JOHNSTON MP

After breakthroughs for the local AEAT Pensioners in recent weeks, I'm delighted to have just had another campaign success — this time with benefits that are national rather than local. Part of my campaigning on the environment includes being chair of the Community Energy APPG and the lead sponsor of the Local Electricity Bill. In simple terms, this means I have been campaigning for some time to see more support for community energy — by which I mean clean, renewable energy that local people generate themselves in their local areas. At the moment the setup costs are just too high. I've spent the past few months working with my Government colleagues to try and get the principles of the Local Electricity Bill into law and get some money behind community energy. This has resulted in a new Community Energy Fund of £10 million being created, which the Government has just announced, and which will be open for applications in the Autumn. I'm really delighted with this as it has the potential to benefit many community energy groups in England and — I hope — Oxfordshire. There'll be further good news when the Energy Bill comes back to the House of Commons next month too — so watch this space!

On the 27<sup>th</sup> September, I will be holding a Pensioners' Fair for local pensioners – whether they live in Wantage, Didcot, Wallingford, Faringdon or any of our villages – at the Beacon in Wantage. I am doing this as a significant proportion of my casework involves trying to help pensioners access support or advice – whether about benefits they're entitled to, support with hearing and sight loss, or how to protect themselves against online scams. I'm therefore bringing together a lot of the key organisations that can provide guidance – together with some of the clubs that can keep people active and help guard against loneliness – in one place so that pensioners can drop in and talk to a range of organisations at the same time. Further details will be put on my website <a href="https://www.david-johnston.org.uk">www.david-johnston.org.uk</a> and do please spread the word.

I'm pleased that after my crime summits in Wantage and Wallingford, Thames Valley Police have taken a number of actions in this area – including following up with each individual who raised a case at the events and broader work to increase contact with local schools/community groups and make visits to places identified as problems – in response to what local people told them.

Far from being a holiday – though I will go away for a week or so – parliamentary recess is a good time to get all over the constituency on days other Friday-Sunday, given MPs have to be in Westminster Monday-Thursday most weeks. I've very much enjoyed being out and about, whether in Uffington, Wallingford, Didcot or Grove and it's been great to visit places I haven't been to before like Serica Smooth in Wantage and Harwell Bowls Club.

As ever, if I can help with anything then do please let me know via david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk



### **BLEWBURY PRE-SCHOOL NEWS**

After two years of excellent leadership as chair and six years as a committee member, Pip Weeden will shortly be stepping down from her role. We are immensely grateful for her hard work and devotion over that time. As such, the Pre-School Committee is in need of a new chair and would be very keen to hear from anyone interesting in the role or who would like to find out more about it. This

is obviously a hugely important part of keeping the pre-school running and ensuring its continued ability to provide such a vital benefit to the local community. For further information please speak to one of the committee members or email secretary@blewburypreschool.co.uk.

The AGM will be held on the evening of 13<sup>th</sup> October and is a great opportunity to get involved, not just as chair, or simply to learn more about the workings of the pre-school. The venue will be confirmed nearer the time.

### **BELL RINGING NEWS FROM BLEWBURY TOWER**

The peal of Bristol Surprise Major comprising of 5056 changes rung in 3hrs 7mins on July 1st by the Westminster Abbey Company of Ringers sounded amazing. Rev Dr Mark Rhodes-Smith, our new curate, who had been ordained that morning, performed his first duty by switching on the illuminated peal board created to record the peal rung by the Company in January 2020 for the dedication of the bell-themed West window designed by Rachel Phillips.

A quarter peal of Steadman Triples (Jackie's favourite method) was rung on 10<sup>th</sup> July to celebrate the life of Jackie Gardner who was a loyal and long serving member of Blewbury Bell Ringers. As well as our normal Friday night practice night and service ringing we have rung for one wedding.

We welcomed visiting ringers on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> August as well as a very successful visit from members of Blewbury WI; Richard Loyd gave a talk in the vestry about the symbolism in the new west window. We then went up to the ringing room where Dick Street displayed and discussed the clock mechanism and Gill Loyd explained the mysteries of bell ringing and gave a demonstration. Andrew Forman talked about the bells themselves and took the more intrepid members up onto the tower roof to see Blewbury from a different perspective.

There is also a social side to ringing and some of us enjoyed a Branch Outing to North Oxford followed by a BBQ in the evening. We are planning on being at the Clubs and Societies event on 24<sup>th</sup> September when, hopefully, any questions on bell ringing can be answered.

### VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE



Hello from Hayleigh and Debra - What a soggy July! Despite the rain Hayleigh attended the opening of Didcot Garden Party, which has lots of free activities taking place across the garden town area until the end of August. See the Vale website for more information, some great ideas for the summer holidays! It was great to see Western Valley Parish Council formed and attend their parish council meeting. We were also able to attend Upton and Chilton Parish Council meetings. Understandably, all parish councils were keen for an update on the Great Western Park GP surgery. As mentioned in our last report, on 23rd June, a report came to the Vale of White Horse council cabinet meeting regarding the surgery. The details of the paper cannot be shared at this time due to commercial confidentiality; however, we can share that legal negotiations are ongoing between all parties involved and the project is progressing. We will continue to push for further communication as we know this is a deep concern for residents.

### **COUNCIL NEWS**

**£155k** of longer-term funding for vital information and advice services: Organisations based in the Vale of White Horse who provide vital information, advice and outreach services in the areas of debt, employment, finance, housing, energy, family, law and courts, immigration and health can now apply for up to five years of funding, thanks to a new grant scheme. See the Vale website for more information.

Cash boost for rural economy across districts: South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district councils have secured more than £1m funding from the government's Rural England Prosperity Fund, which can be used to provide a boost to projects such as creating rural business hubs, setting up community energy schemes and diversifying farm businesses beyond agriculture. They are now asking for Expressions of interest to understand which organisations might apply and for what type of project. See the Vale website for details. Have your say on the plans for the new council HQ: A new building that will kickstart the revitalisation of Didcot Gateway is now one step closer, with updated images of the proposed council headquarters released. The planning application is now live and open for comments on the South Oxfordshire District Council website (P23/S2621/FUL). The building will be the first step to bring new life into this historically neglected site, providing more confidence for future business investment and making Didcot an even more attractive place to live, work and learn.

We use these monthly updates to keep you updated on our activities and general council news. We also post on our Facebook Pages: <a href="www.facebook.com/CllrHayleigh">www.facebook.com/CllrHayleigh</a> & www.facebook.com/Debra4BlewburyAndHarwell Please get in touch with any issues or concerns via email: <a href="mailto:hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk">hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk</a> and <a href="mailto:debra.dewhurst@whitehorsedc.gov.uk">debra.dewhurst@whitehorsedc.gov.uk</a>.

### ARE YOUR HEDGES HOGGING THE ROAD, FOOTPATH OR WATERWAY?

This is still the time of year when the sudden sprouting of vegetation means overgrown hedges and other vegetation can make life difficult for users of village footpaths and pavements. Our Lengthman is doing an excellent job keeping footpaths and verges in good order but the PC would like to remind householders that they are responsible for maintaining their boundaries in good condition. Please check that your trees, hedges or bushes are not growing over footpaths or pavements, or obstructing watercourses. For general information about managing hedges and trees please see <a href="https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/roadside-trees-hedges-and-ditches">https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/roadside-trees-hedges-and-ditches</a>



### **BANK HOLIDAY BINS**

Bank holiday traditions: rainy barbecues, kids being chased by wasps around the garden, and the usual tweak to your waste collections.

That means that everyone's bins will be emptied a day later during the week following the bank holiday on 28 August.

There's more info, plus a full holiday collections calendar that will take you up to Easter next year on the Vale's waste calendar page.

### **BULLETIN STOP PRESS SERVICE**

If you would like to receive urgent village news and information by email, you can sign up to the Bulletin Stop Press service at www.blewbury.co.uk. Powered by MailChimp®, all emails are blind copied so no addresses are shared.

#### **PARISH COUNCIL**

Notes of the Annual Village Meeting of Blewbury Parish Council: 7pm, **Wednesday 12 July 2023** in the Vale Room. **Present:** Dermot Mathias (chair), Sheila Austin, Andrew Calder, Jane Gibson, Anne Millman and Julia Saunders. Also present Elizabeth Cooper (clerk), David Hollick (lengthman) and Jill Ingoldby (Speed Watch team). Apologies were received from Lydia Inglis, Lee Robinson and Mark Shayler, County Councillor Sally Povolotsky & District Councillors Hayleigh Gascoigne and Debra Dewhurst.

The PC is delighted to welcome new councillor Julia Saunders. Julia is an award-winning writer, former diplomat and Oxfam policy adviser. Married to Joss Saunders, she knows the village well and is looking forward to linking Blewbury with her literary world.

Blewbury Clubhouse is now open – refitted and redecorated – and taking bookings. After the flood the building took a long time to dry out, which delayed refurbishment work. There will be further information about the Clubhouse and the Hallmaster booking system at the Clubs and Societies Event at the Village Hall on Sunday 24 September. During the refurb we discovered we have extraneous crockery and glassware – from shot glasses to beer glasses. We also have extra bar stools and chairs. On Sunday 17 September the Clubhouse will be open 10amnoon for Blewbury residents to take anything which could be useful to them or to people they know.

At Ticker's Folly, the new outdoor table tennis table has been mindlessly damaged. Bats and balls left there for people to use have also been irreparably damaged and cannot be replaced. The table is for the enjoyment of everyone in the village, and it's our collective responsibility to look after it. To report a crime taking place, please call 999. To report new damage to equipment or property on TFF, please call the clerk or 101.

The initial four-week consultation on **the Vale's conservation area appraisal for Blewbury** has been extended until 30 August. To comment please search 'Blewbury Conservation Area Appraisal' on the Vale's website, or go to https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/planning-and-development/building-conservation-and-design/conservation-areas/review-of-the-blewbury-conservation-area/

The Vale's cleaning teams will be spending in the village from 26–29 September for a 'deep cleanse'. This could include litter picking, sweeping, removing weeds and/or moss on pavements. (It cannot include weed spraying, general gardening, cutting grass or vegetation, or removing weeds and moss from roads.) The teams can only work on land to which the public has access and which is under the direct control of the district council. If you have particular requests or proposals for cleaning that adhere to the above criteria please contact Anne Millman at anne.blewburypc@gmail.com before 5 September – she will co-ordinate requests on behalf of the village.

#### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

All Blewbury planning applications, decisions and BPC responses, including items under consideration, can be found in the 'Parish' section of the Blewbury website (www.blewbury.co.uk/parish/planning/), updated monthly. This also has links to the Vale's planning site, with full details and plans for all applications.

### Decisions from the District Council:

P23/V1265/HH Winterbrook Farm, Bessels Way Demolish existing plant room, build new summerhouse. Granted. P23/V1035/HH Garden House, Westbrook Street Replace all windows with PVCu windows. Addition of new front door with porch and two new windows to north elevation. Stained timber cladding to exterior brickwork to allow for cellotex insulation, and further works to insulate the dwelling. Granted.

P23/V1032/FUL Land Adjacent Garden House, Coffin Way Construction of a single detached dwelling. Blewbury PC has no objection to the design of the house, but the site plan as depicted includes a shared access road. Granted. P23/V0560/HH 85 Dibleys Construction of a two-storey side extension and a single storey rear extension following demolition of conservatory. Granted.

Enquiries regarding planning in the parish may be sent to blewburypc@gmail.com

NEED TO CONTACT YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS?	
Sheila Austin 3 Ladycroft Park	Anne Millman Brook Cottage, Church End
Andrew Calder Trefagus, Chapel Lane	Lee Robinson 6 Chailey Gardens
Lydia Inglis Chapmans, Nottingham Fee	Julia Saunders Charity School House, Church Road
Jane Gibson 5 Westbrook Green	Mark Shayler 2 Eastfields
Dermot Mathias The Old Mill, Berry Lane	Elizabeth Cooper (Clerk) 07968 772935 or blewburypc@gmail.com

The next PC meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 13 September 2023, in the Melland Room at the Clubhouse.

### FREE ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTS

Oxfordshire residents are being encouraged to take up Oxfordshire County Council's offer of a free electric blanket check. These checks are normally very popular, with places limited. Therefore, they must be **pre-booked** by phoning **01865 895999** or emailing <a href="mailto:duty.officer@oxfordshire.gov.uk">duty.officer@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a>. Sessions for Vale of White Horse residents are scheduled for Friday 22 September and Friday 6 October - exact time and location to be advised when you book.

<u>Autumn Leaves</u> The dates for September Bingo Sessions in The Vale Room at Blewbury Village Hall, at 2pm are:-September 12th and 26th. The date for the MILLETS trip will be confirmed later. For further information call Norman Webb (01235 850700) or Cilla Maguire (01235 851966) If anyone would like to join Autumn Leaves, please contact Norman or Cilla on the above phone numbers. We would welcome any new members.

Astons Online's September round table Zoom webinar will be 10:30 – 11:15 on Tuesday 5 September, looking at new things that smartphones can do e.g. digital train/bus tickets and creating strong passwords. Book your place at <a href="mailto:theastonsonline@gmail.com">theastonsonline@gmail.com</a>. Our in-person event in Astons Village Hall (OX119EQ) will be on Tuesday 19 September from 10:00 to 12:00. Please tell us that you're coming so we can have helpers available. At both these events we'll discuss issues you bring to the meeting and share experiences. Website: <a href="www.astonsonline.uk">www.astonsonline.uk</a>

**FLYING SQUAD Number 07891 768197** If the Flying Squad telephone holder is not available, you will be put through to voicemail and you will hear a message which starts – 'Hello, this is the Blewbury Flying Squad phone ......' and you will be prompted to leave a message. Wait for the beep at the end of the message and give your name and telephone number and you will be phoned back as soon as possible. Please speak clearly. **Please note that the Flying Squad is a voluntary service that relies entirely on people's personal time and vehicle availability, so we need as much notice as possible to arrange a <b>driver.** Please also note that journeys to the Horton Hospital in Banbury are not available from the Flying Squad.

#### **BLEWBURY POST OFFICE OPENING HOURS**

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays - 8.30 am - 12 noon and 2.30 - 5 pm. Wednesdays - 8.30 am - 12 noon. Saturdays – closed until further notice.

			VILLAGE DIARY for September 2023	Page
Friday	1	End of day	Deadline for Blewbury Song for Europe song submission	5
Tuesday	5	8.30-10am	Rest-a-While, Vale Room	1
Sunday	10	2-4 pm	Apple Juicing, Blewbury Manor	9
Monday	11	9.30-11am	Coffee & Kids!, Vale Room	7
Monday	11	7 pm	Village Hall Users meeting, Vale Room	16
Tuesday	12	2 pm	Autumn Leaves Bingo etc., Vale Room	20
Tuesday	12	7.30 pm	BlewShed meeting with talk by Peter Cockrell	13
Tuesday	12	8 pm	Local History Group meeting at Robinson's, Parsonage Lane	13
Wednesday	13	7 pm	Parish Council meeting, Melland Room	19
Wednesday	20	7.30 pm	Deadline for October Bulletin – Swallows, Church Road	
Sunday	24	2-4 pm	Clubs & Societies event, Village Hall	1
Sunday	24	2-4 pm	Apple Juicing, Blewbury Manor	9
Tuesday	26	2 pm	Autumn Leaves Bingo etc., Vale Room	20
Wednesday	27	7.30 pm	WI Meeting and Talk: 'Oxford's Penicillin', Vale Room	9
Saturday	30	7.30pm for 8	Jazz at Mockbeggars – Jo Harrop trio	7

HOW TO ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETIN The Bulletin welcomes advertisements from organisations and individuals based in Blewbury and immediately neighbouring villages. Space permitting, we also welcome ads from further afield if they do not duplicate existing local services, are not widely advertised elsewhere and are likely to be of interest to residents. Acceptance of advertisements does not imply endorsement of the products or services offered. Advertisements must be submitted in one of three rectangular sizes:

• 60mm wide x 40mm high (cost: £2.00) • 60mm wide x 85mm high (£4.00) • 90mm wide x 65mm high (£6.00) Artwork should be in black and white only. You can also send plain text for us to fit into an appropriately sized box. If you are advertising a village event you can also present it as plain editorial, i.e. not highlighted in a box, for no charge. All advertisements should be submitted to the Editor in the first instance, either emailed to editor@blewbury.co.uk as a Microsoft

Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, JPEG or PDF attachment, or typed/handwritten and delivered to **Swallows**, **Church Road**, **Blewbury OX11 9PY**. If your advertisement is accepted, please note that payment **must** be received before the Bulletin goes to press. If you require repeat insertions over multiple months, you will be referred to the Advertising Manager to make the appropriate arrangements.

<u>WRITTEN CONTRIBUTIONS</u> We are always happy to receive editorial contributions, which can be submitted in the same way as advertisements – see above. We ask for a maximum length of 500 words (closer to 400 if there is an accompanying photo). Anyone supplying information for publication must be responsible for its accuracy. We require name and contact details in all cases, although if requested these will not be published. The editor reserves the right to reject submissions. Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Bulletin.

### To see the Bulletin online visit www.blewbury.co.uk.

The Blewbury Bulletin is published at Swallows, Church Road, Blewbury, OX11 9PY. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of published information, the Editor and Officers accept no responsibility for the consequences of any errors. **Problems receiving your Bulletin? Call 01235 850337.** 

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