

The Courier

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**



Uffington Parish Council

The Courier

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UFFINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Simon Jenkins (Chair)

The Council

Uffington Parish Council has six councillors. They serve four year terms, with elections next due in 2019. The composition of the Parish Council is:

Mr Simon Jenkins (Chair) Tel. 01367 820776

simon.jenkins@uffington.net

Mrs Karen Pilcher (Vice Chair)

karen.pilcher@uffington.net

Mrs Fenella Oberman

fenella.oberman@uffington.net

Mr Graham Banks

graham.banks@uffington.net

Mr Mike Oldnall

mike.oldnall@uffington.net

Dr Paul Coad

paul.coad@uffington.net

Clerk

Mrs Julia Evans Tel: 01235 833466

uffingtonpc,clerk@gmail.com

Mrs Julia Evans (Alternative)

parishcouncil@uffington.net

The Chair and Clerk may be contacted on the above telephone numbers. Other Councillors may be contacted on the email addresses above.

The Council meets on the second Monday of the month in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, at 7.30pm. All residents are welcome to attend these meetings and raise any issues; we will make it easy for you by having an "open forum" session early in the meeting (normally 8pm) at which issues may be raised and discussed. The agenda is published on the Parish Council website and notice board at least three clear days before the meeting.

Local Council Elections – May 2019

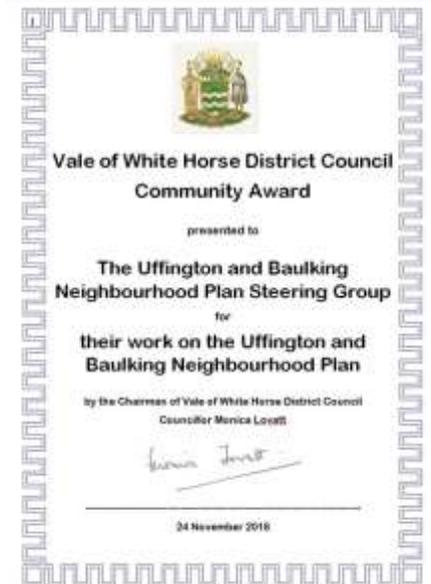
Local elections for district and parish councils will take place on 2 May 2019. Uffington Parish Council has worked very well together, in the interests of all sections of the community, since the last elections in 2015; it has been an interesting, challenging, successful and busy time. However, all organisations need new blood from time to time, and we would therefore like to encourage residents of Uffington to consider joining the Council. Since the last election the

Parish Council has had one extra councillor position approved in order to recognise the additional number of residents in the village, primarily from Jacksmeadow. Please speak to any member of the Council, and / or come to one of our monthly meetings in the THMH.

Vale Community Awards

The Parish Council would like to congratulate the following who received Community Awards from the Vale District Council in November:

- The Uffington and Baulking Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The citation is as follows: "The award is a group nomination for the team who drew up the Uffington and Baulking neighbourhood plan. In making the nomination, it was commented that the team had a patient and thorough approach to the work and that they communicated well with residents."



- Sue Jennings, for services to the community, as a committed member of the Uffington Benefice Ministry team. Amongst all her other work in the benefice, Sue set up the Welcome Pack for all new arrivals into the village, organised children's holiday activities and started up 'Messy Church'. Her reaction to the award is: 'I was only doing God's work in the community'. We offer our best wishes for the future to Dave and Sue, as they prepare to leave the village.

Dave and Sue Jennings



- Tom Scrivens, as he has been a selfless contributor to the local community for many years, working tirelessly to support a wide range of charities and activities. Particularly, Tom is a key member of the management committee of the Uffington Baulking and Woolstone community minibus; he is a longstanding member – since the 1960's - of the local branch of the Royal British Legion, of which he is now the standard bearer, a role in which he represents the Legion on frequent occasions; and last but by no means least, he has been a committee member of the Uffington White Horse Show, for more than 15 years.



Tom Scrivens

A tree to commemorate 100 years since the WW1 Armistice

- On a cold December morning a group of villagers met on the Jubilee Field in Uffington to witness Tom Scrivens, representing the Faringdon Branch of the Royal British Legion, planting a rowan tree commemorating 100 years since the signing of the Armistice of the First World War. At the ceremony the Vice-Chair of Uffington Parish Council, Karen Pilcher, spoke briefly about the men from the area who had fought and died in that war. The Vicar of Uffington, The Reverend Jeremy Goulston, led the group in prayer, after which everyone adjourned to the THMH for warming refreshments.



The tree planting group

Defibrillators

The Parish Council is very pleased to announce that an order has been placed for six defibrillators, as a result of the initiative jointly undertaken by Uffington, Baulking and Woolstone. At the time of writing (just before Christmas), we are awaiting completion of delivery; once we have received the defibrillators we will arrange installation (which will probably take a further couple of weeks in January). They will be installed in the following locations:

- a) Uffington: The Fox and Hounds, Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington Sports Club and the telephone box opposite St Mary's Church.
- b) Baulking: The telephone box opposite St Nicholas Church.
- c) Woolstone: The White Horse Inn.

The defibrillators will all be available 24/7. They will be secured in locked steel cabinets on the outside of their respective buildings (or in the telephone box), **SO, YOU MUST CALL 999** and you will then be given the code to open the cabinet by the Emergency Services. The Emergency Services will then deploy a First Responder or ambulance to assist you; until they arrive, you must follow the automated instructions given by the defibrillator.

Please keep your eyes open for information about training; Tory Russ will be running a number of sessions in all three villages. We would like as many people as possible to attend a training session - it could be your relative or friend in need. Dates and locations will be advised.

The cost of the project is over £11,000 and we are extremely grateful to **Cllr Yvonne Constance's Councillor Priority Fund and the White Horse Show Trust**. Both organisations have made substantial grants to enable this project to proceed.

The donation tins in the village shop, the Fox & Hounds and White Horse Inn, started by Alison & Nicky, have raised over £420; this will be used on advertising the location of the defibrillators, and what to do if you need to use one; thank you to everybody who has contributed - it is gratifying to see such enthusiastic public support for this project.



Restoration of the Old School Room (Tom Brown's School Museum)

The Parish Council held an Open Day on Sunday 28 October, as a drop-in session with refreshments; the aim of this was to thank all those who have contributed towards the restoration. A brief (non-technical) history of the project is:

It was brought to our attention during some minor repointing work in July 2017 that the problems with the building were greater than we had anticipated – including that it might be unstable. Some of the Parish Council then spent the next 3 to 4 weeks fearing each morning that we might find the building lying in the road. So we quickly instructed Andrew Townsend Architects of Faringdon, who have much experience in dealing with historic and chalk buildings, and they in turn instructed a structural engineer on our behalf. Their report showed us that the building was not going to fall down imminently but a great deal of work to the structure of the building was essential, to prevent that happening in the next year or so.

Between December 2017 and May 2018 there was a lot of activity in working up all the specifications, costings, tender documents and the planning application to the Vale District Council for Listed Building consent; in early June J.B. Kerr Stone Repair & Conservation Services started work. Jan Kerr's firm proved to be an excellent choice for the work and they finished the job in early September.

In December 2017 we also started a major fundraising initiative. The fact that we were able to celebrate the end of the project in October 2018 showed how quickly and generously so many individuals, charities, trusts and other organisations donated to the appeal. A list of the principal benefactors will be displayed on a permanent memorial outside the building; the list includes 'the patrons of Uffington Shop' because of the £850 placed in the collection box.

If you think that the building does not look very different to the past, that is a testament to the success of the restoration; the Old School Room, built in 1617 and given to the village in 1958, looks much the same as it ever did, but is now again fit for purpose and ready for the next phase of its life.

Jubilee Field

Thank you to all those who turned out to assist with the Autumn Tidy on Saturday 3 November. **Save the Date:** the Spring Tidy will be held on **Saturday 16 March 2019**.

Ditch clearance It is essential that the ditches around the village run freely. If you need some assistance in clearing ditches which are your responsibility, please contact the Parish Council at uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com

The Parish Council would like to thank the small group of residents who assist with maintenance work around the village, in areas which are the responsibility of the Parish Council. If you would like to join the group, please get in touch with the Parish Council at uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com

Parking on Broad Street by the School

Please do NOT park, for however short a period of time, on the yellow zig zag lines outside the School, or on the white line which runs from the Church gate back towards the Museum. Both are there for an important purpose - which is to make it possible for children to enter and leave the playground safely. Despite repeated reminders, this request is still ignored by some users of the school. It is a parking offence to park on these lines and you may be liable for penalties.

Speedwatch

After their training, the Speedwatch team had three active sessions in September and October, using equipment loaned by a local village. The two locations agreed by the Police were on the Fernham Road by the allotments, and on the Fawler

Road by the footpath leading to Upper Common Lane – in both cases monitoring traffic entering and leaving the village. In those sessions, the tally of cars checked was 126 and the number of cars reported to the Police for travelling at speeds in excess of c35 mph (allowing a 10% margin for error) was 26, or 20%. This clearly had a helpful deterrent effect, as the number of offenders dropped markedly on the second occasion!

We need your support!!

We believe that this is a worthwhile initiative, building on the very strong desire from many residents and expressed in the UBW CLP for a reduction in speeding in the village. The Parish Council has budgeted to make some money available next year to invest in a set of monitoring equipment, in a share arrangement with other villages. BUT, there is no point doing this unless we have more people trained to operate the equipment – to show the support of residents. If you would like to help the current small team which has been trained by the Police, please get in touch with the Parish Council.

Wantage and Faringdon Rural Crime

Reports received from the Police show that there is a lot of rural crime at present. Simple precautions include securing your house when you are away (and asking a neighbour to keep an eye on it for you), removing valuables and locking the car, and reporting all suspicious activity by calling 101. Alternatively, you can now get in touch with the Police online at www.thamesvalley.police.uk using the 'Report' or 'Tell us about' buttons.

Uffington and Baulking Neighbourhood Plan

From Robert Hart, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG):

The NP was submitted to the Vale District Council on 25 October. The VWHDC has now confirmed that the Plan was valid and has started the next stage of the process. Their 6 week Consultation Period will run from 6 December 2018 to 24 January 2019 (the period has been extended by 1 week to allow for the Christmas and New Year holiday periods). You can view the neighbourhood plan and supporting documents at:

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-plans/uffington-and-baulking>

The website also has details of how to leave comments.

Hard copies are available to view at St Mary's Church, Uffington and at St Nicholas Church, Baulking during normal opening times. The documents are also available to view at Vale of White Horse District Council's office, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Abingdon, OX14 4SB between 8.30am and 5pm Monday to

Thursday and 8.30am and 4.30pm on Fridays.

Following the consultation period, the process is then as follows:

- Comments from this consultation will be collated and passed, with the unchanged Plan, to the appointed Examiner.
- The Examiner will consider the Plan and make any recommendations for changes required prior to holding the Referendum.
- The Examiner's recommendations will be considered and incorporated as necessary.
- The Referendum will be organised by the VWHDC and run in the same manner as local or national elections.
- Subject to a successful outcome of the Referendum (which requires a simple majority vote for it to be carried), the Plan will then become 'made' (adopted). The Referendum will probably be held in or around May 2019.
- The made Plan will then form, along with the Local Plan Parts 1 and 2 (the latter currently being considered by the Examiner and not yet adopted), part of the 'Development Plan' for the District and which will be used to help determine future Planning Applications.

This information can also be seen on the village website here:

<https://www.uffington.net/community-neighbourhood-plans/> this includes a link to further detail on the NP website.

Your continued patience, support and engagement are greatly appreciated. The NPSG website, www.ubwnp.net, remains the best way to stay up to date on progress, and to place any comments or questions.

Planning applications in Uffington (with Vale reference number) – since the last edition of the Courier:

The following have been **approved**:

- P18/V1946/FUL - Proposals for borehole and reservoir at Woolstone Hill.
- P18/V1439/HH - Rosebrook House (formerly Craven Yard), Fernham Road. Retrospective application to enclose open garage and front porch.
- P18/V2052/FUL - Creslu, Woolstone Road, proposed replacement dwelling.
- P18/V2085/HH – The Willows, Packer's Lane. Proposed two storey rear extension and new roof light to existing roof.
- P18/V2415/HH – 2 Shotover Corner. Proposed rear extension and modifications to 2 Shotover Corner, to create accessible accommodation.

The following have been **refused**:

- P18/V1987/O - Land adjacent to Fawler Road. Development of four dwellings with associated car parking.

The following are **awaiting determination** by the Vale District Council:

- P18/V2632/RM - Land adjacent to Dragon Hill. Reserved matters application following on from previous outline planning approval P15/V2017/O for erection

of a single dwelling (all matters reserved apart from access). (Revised application).

- P18/V2199/O - Outline application with all matters reserved bar access, for erection of 20 dwellings, provision of allotment parking, drainage, public open space and ancillary works, on Land east of Fernham Road Uffington.
- P18/V2990/FUL - Common Farm, Lower Common, Uffington, erection of 3 dwellings and associated works including new access onto Lower Common.
- P18/V2716/LB – Tamarisk Cottage, Woolstone Road. Replacement glazing to 2 ground floor windows.

The live list of 'Current' and 'Decided' Uffington applications can be accessed via the links on the website here <https://www.uffington.net/parish-council/planning/>

New planning applications

We have said this before, but we encourage those intending to submit an application to the Planning department at The Vale District Council to discuss them with the Parish Council at an early stage. We may be able to help you to avoid unnecessary errors which serve to downgrade the quality of the application. There is an opportunity to do this in the Open Forum at every monthly meeting – usually at 8.00pm. If in doubt, please contact any member of the Council.

Jacksmeadow – Section 106 Contributions

As part of the planning approval for the development of Jacksmeadow, certain sums of money were required to be paid to the parish, district and county councils as contributions towards the additional infrastructure and facilities required to support additional residents. These facilities may be located within Uffington parish (e.g. Public Art) or further afield if shared (e.g. Secondary Schools or Swimming Pools).

No new applications or grants have been approved since the last edition of the Courier, but we are currently working on a project to install more seating and a picnic table on the Jubilee Field.

There is some money left and we would welcome fresh ideas or applications for grants towards projects which would be of benefit to the Uffington community. Please contact any member of the Parish Council to discuss an idea.

Communications

- **Village Web site.** The village website can be found at <http://www.uffington.net/> It is in the ownership of the Parish Council, which pays the hosting and support charges on behalf of the village. Requests for additions and changes should be made to the Clerk, Julia Evans, at uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com or through the website.
- **E-mail notices.** There is an e-mail network of topical information which is

sent weekly to those who have signed up for it. If you wish to join please notify Simon Jenkins on 820776 or simon.jenkins@uffington.net For data protection reasons, E-mail addresses are held securely and not disclosed to anybody else, or used for anything apart from Parish Council notifications and other information thought to be of general interest to residents, in accordance with our Privacy Notice.

- **Facebook page for Uffington, Baulking, Woolstone, Kingstone Lisle, Fawler** – The majority of Parish Council communications are shared on the local Facebook page.

The Allotments

There are some spare plots at the Uffington allotments; the cost is currently £40 per year. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Council at uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com

NOTICES

Uffington Twinning Association

Back in April 1991, a small group of five of us went to a snowy Le Chevain, a small village near Alençon in Normandy, to investigate the possibility of forming a Twinning relationship between that village and Uffington. In July another small group from Le Chevain came to Uffington. In October a coach load of enthusiastic “Twinners” from Uffington went to Le Chevain for a weekend of festivities and our Jumelage was born.

Many years of enjoyable exchange visits followed, at one time over eighty of us going to France for a weekend, ten per cent of the village!

On another visit our vicar at the time, John Gawne-Cain, told me that these things go in cycles of enthusiasm and decline and we should be prepared for the Twinning to wane. How right he turned out to be and, a few years ago, lack of support, on both sides of the channel, resulted in the end of twinning exchange visits.

Sadly, therefore, it is necessary to announce the winding up of the Uffington Twinning Association.

Over the years many of us have made good and lasting friends in France and, perhaps every bit as important, new friends here in Uffington.

It is my hope that, one day, another generation will see the Association arise, Phoenix like, from the ashes and enjoy the experience of twinning.

Mementoes are on display in the Museum and the modest closing funds have

been donated to the Thomas Saunders Trust.
Thanks to Eric Wyard and Brona Jones for their sterling work in closing the affairs of the Association.

John Davis
November 2018



From Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service - Cooking fires

All it takes is one distraction! Did you know that 1 in 3 people rescued from house fires in Oxfordshire are rescued from cooking fires? Or that distraction is the main cause of cooking fires? It's easy to get distracted - the phone rings, someone's at the door or a TV show catches your attention. If you need to leave your cooking, even for a couple of minutes:

- turn down the heat
- set the timer
- or ask someone to watch it for you

Or you could find that Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service firefighters join you for dinner! Find out more at: www.365alive.co.uk/cooking

'Horse' Gallops Home - a performance in Uffington Village Hall on 14th November

In 2011 Northumbrian poet Katrina Porteous, one of the country's most exciting poets, and electronic music pioneer Peter Zinovieff created an astonishing new work inspired by Uffington's own 3,000 year old chalk figure. Scored for live vocals and computer, Horse mixes human voices with the mysterious sounds of a Cornish chain ferry, to conjure the powerful spirit of the Uffington landscape. The piece evokes thousands of years of history and myth – Wayland the Blacksmith, the Dragon of Dragon Hill, the place of horses in English culture, and recollections from our deepest past.

Katrina stayed in Uffington for a few days in early November, during which she worked with every class in Uffington Primary School. Her stay culminated in the performance of 'Horse' on 14 November, at which the children's work was also on display; clearly they had enjoyed the opportunity to work with Katrina, with their own writing and creative work about the Horse.

An appreciative audience of about 35 people heard Katrina's introduction about her plans to produce an outdoor performance of Horse in the Uffington landscape, with community approval and involvement, and support from the National Trust in 2020/21. The National Trust are supportive, as are Uffington residents, and Friends of the Ridgeway and the Ridgeway National Trail have been informed and

have both made some helpful suggestions. We then heard Katrina perform her poem, accompanied by Peter Zinovieff's astonishing score. Everybody present was enthused by Katrina's plans for a performance, somewhere in the area of White Horse Hill, in 2020/21. Katrina will develop her plans and seek funding over the next year or so.

If anybody would like to assist Katrina by joining a 'working group' of people interested in taking the project forward next year, please contact her at: info@katrinaporteous.co.uk

Advance Notice - Temporary Road Closure - Uffington-Broad Way and Shotover

We have been warned that a section of Broad Way from the B4507 to Stockholm Farm will be closed for replacement of mains water pipes from 7 January 2019 to 15 February; there will be no through road, but access will be maintained for residents, bin collections and emergency vehicles.

There will be a further closure at Shotover from 18 February 2019 for up to 2 weeks, to allow OCC to repair the damaged culvert under the road. There will be access to frontages between the T-junction at Shotover to Stonehaven. The alternative route for traffic affected by the closure is: Woolstone Road - Marsh Way - Unnamed road to B4507 - B4507 – Broadway, and vice versa. A map of this diversion has been made available on the Parish Council notice board.

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THE FRIENDS OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH

Geoffrey Foster (chairman)

Our latest project is to supply cushions for the choir stalls in the chancel. Once this is completed we hope to be able help the P.C.C. with other projects.

Once again a very big thank you to everyone who supports us, it is very much appreciated.

Please don't forget our very popular **Sunday Carvery Lunches** which will be held on;-

Sunday 3rd February 2019 and Sunday 3rd March 2019.

The price this year will again be £12.50.

Book early and don't be disappointed.

To book please telephone;-

Geoff Foster 01367 820668, Ray Avenell 01367 820242, or Geoff Rumble 01367 820036

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All Good Wishes for a Splendid Year of Gardening

We look forward to seeing lots of you at our exciting itinerary of talks and visits for 2019

WHITE HORSE GARDEN CLUB PROGRAMME 2019				
DATE	DAY	TIME	TALK/VISIT	TITLE & SPEAKER
07-FEB	THURSDAY	7.30	TALK	SHRUBS FOR SITUATIONS - making the correct choice Andy McIndoe, former MD of Hilliers. www.andymcindoe.com
14-FEB	FRIDAY	10.30	VISIT	SNOWDROPS - Mrs Alice Munsey, 14 Chawley Lane, CUMNOR OX2 2PX £4 inc refreshments.
07-MAR	THURSDAY	7.30	TALK	BRISTOL BOTANIC GARDEN Nick Wray -Curator www.bristol.ac.uk
04-APR	THURSDAY	7.30	TALK	THE BENEFITS OF WILD FLOWER GARDENING Nick Field, Landscape Gardener
11-MAY	SATURDAY	2.30 - 4.00	SALE	FUND RAISING PLANT SALE - please bring plants for sale Label and price each plant.
18-MAY	SATURDAY	9.00 - 6.00	VISIT	EXBURY GARDENS, SOUTHAMPTON SO45 1AZ £25 each includes coach and entrance. www.exbury.co.uk
06-JUN	THURSDAY	6.00	VISIT	30th ANNIVERSARY GARDEN PARTY AT BARCOTE GARDEN, BUCKLAND SN7 8PP Courtesy of Mr and Mrs C Smith. £15 inc supper and drinks.
11-JUL	THURSDAY	2.00 - 4.00	VISIT	JEKKA MCVICAR'S HERBETUM, Shellards Lane, Alveston, BRISTOL BS35 5SY. £15 Tour and Refreshments. Max 30 people
18-JUL	THURSDAY	2.00	VISIT	HASELEY COURT, Little Haseley OX44 7LL £7 inc tour and refreshments
05-SEP	THURSDAY	7.30	TALK	THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF GROWING VEGETABLES Victoria Logue, Whitehall Farmhouse Plants. www.wfplants.co.uk
03-OCT	THURSDAY	7.30	TALK	THE VICTORIAN GARDEN - a picture of how life was pre WW1 Dr Francis Burroughs
07-NOV	THURSDAY	7.30	TALK	DAVID AUSTIN ROSES - Growing the Best Roses Michael Marriott. Roses for sale. www.davidaustinroses.com
05-DEC	THURSDAY	7.00	TALK	30th ANNIVERSARY TALK - GROW GREAT VEG AND HAVE FUN PIPPA GREENWOOD. www.pippagreenwood.com Tickets £5 members. Visitors £10. Seasonal refreshments inc.

Everyone WELCOME at the White Horse Garden Club.

Membership is £10 per annum. Visitors £2.50 per meeting. Raffle £1.

Venue: Thomas Hughes Memorial (large) Hall, Uffington SN7 7RA

White Horse Garden Club Committee: Verity Cavanagh, Alison Corley, Jane Cracknell, Patricia Dalrymple, Hilary Deakin, Pamela Preene.

Further information: Pamela Preene, T: 01367820251 E: parrottspreene@aol.com

Verity Cavanagh T: 07975861790 E: veritycavanagh@gmail.com

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Thank you from the Jennings

'Bloom where you are planted' states this little cross stitch, given to me by a friend when we were emigrating to Australia from Galloway in Scotland in 1989. And that's what we have tried to do here.

Thank you all for your kindness to us during our almost 8 years in Uffington. It seems that you don't need to live in the village for 20 years to feel a 'local', which has been wonderful.

From the moment we moved in and I offered to restart the youth club, through Messy Church and being a part of the ministry team, we have both felt very supported. We've loved meeting so many of you and being involved in the communities of Uffington, Woolstone, Shellingford and Baulking.

God has given us the energy and guided us to do this, and without Dave I couldn't have done what I wanted to, we make a great team.

There are many 'teams' here, we feel this is a very active village and have felt blessed to be part of the Community Garden, Toddler group, 'Games in the Hall and Park' etc. Now some of you have taken on our tasks, including the 'Welcome Pack', and are forming your own new 'teams', which is wonderful, thank you all. And if you fancy being the Health and Safety Officer for church, speak to Jeremy!

The Ministry team is expanding too, which means we can leave feeling there is new 'blossom', which is as it should be. We will be sad to leave and miss you, but we are joining family on Anglesey, hopefully on the 1st February, so will hope to 'bloom where we are planted' there. We feel sure you will equally welcome the new young family moving into our old house at 1 White Horse.

My bible reading this morning ended with this thought for the day by Lyndall Bywater: 'Father God, forgive me when I close my eyes and fail to look out for my fellow travellers. Help me today to look for opportunities to lend the hand of hope to those around me'. May God bless you as you 'travel on' too!

Sue and Dave



* * * * *



From the Vicar

It has been so good to have Sue and Dave Jennings with us in the villages.

Sue has always been an encouraging presence for us and our churches, and Dave has been an untiring support behind the scenes. Whilst doing all she has done for and with the Ministry Team, Dave has been turning their garden and allotment into something special - not just beautiful but nourishing too!

Sue has an amazing ability to see what needs doing and just to get on with it, and our loss will very much be Anglesey's gain - as they go to be with her daughter and family we wish them every blessing and very happy landings indeed.

I type this in the run-up to Christmas, with all sorts of uncertainty in the air, and drones quite literally in the air over Gatwick.

A wise woman once said to me that it takes a lot to build up love and community, and very little to pull it apart.

Thank goodness we have so many people in this village willing to lend a hand where necessary. Sue and Dave were very much those kind of people, but it takes all sorts of folk to make up a thriving community which has so many different gifts and needs like ours.

Artists, for example, work and think in such different ways from scientists, but our society has great need of both and other talents if we are to thrive.

Since austerity looks set to be with us for some time yet, I have not just Minnie Haskins' poem 'The Gate of the Year' in mind, but also JFK's; 'ask not what can your country (village?) do for you, but what you can do for your country'.

Wishing you a very Happy New Year indeed, despite everything!

Jeremy

PS If you want to know what the Church is up to, and receive our Weekly Sheet, simply send a message to that effect to 'weeklysheets@outlook.com'

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SCHOOL NOTICEBOARD

Our school year ended with our nativity plays and carol service in the church, where our Year sixes read Bible passages and poems beautifully. Our nativity play "The Magical Christmas Jigsaw" played to a packed house at the village hall!

Thank you to everybody who supported us including the PTA who served refreshments. The children sang and acted beautifully. Key Stage Two also sang Christmas songs to the Afternoon Club at the village hall – which is something we look forward to every year.

Last year saw some of our most exciting work, from creating our own poetry about the White horse with the poet Katrina Porteous, whole class violin concert, trips to the theatre, holding a prayer space event, working with a Paralympian athlete, visiting Roves Farm and competing in a range of sports tournaments with other schools. Three events which particularly stand out were of course our summer fete, our Remembrance service and our Macmillan coffee morning. These were wonderful opportunities for our pupils to develop leadership roles and take on responsibilities, whilst meeting and talking to a wide range of people in the local community.

Pictures are on our school website: <https://uffingtonschool.co.uk/>

From all at Uffington School may we wish you a happy and a prosperous new year.

Mrs Lisa Bradbury,
Head Teacher

THOMAS HUGHES MEMORIAL HALL Douglas Dalrymple (Chairman 821063)

AGM. This will take place on Monday, January 28th at 8.00pm in the Small Hall. It is an occasion not just for the Trustees, the Management Committee, and named representatives of Clubs and Organisations that use the Halls, but is open to anyone who resides within the 'area of benefit' – which area comprises the parishes of Uffington, Baulking and Woolstone.

See you there?

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BENEFICE 200 CLUB DRAW – 21st October 2018
Results of the 1st Draw of the year [quarter ending 30 September 2018]
Following the HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE
At St Nicholas Church, Baulking, on Sunday 21st October 2018

1st Prize £150.00	128	Hazel Avenell
2nd Prize £55.00	112	Richard Weetch
	7	Tory & Bob Russ
	150	Sandra & Charlie Walters
3rd Prize £ 35.00	2	A MacPherson
	5	Rachel & Stephen Green
	59	Simon Jenkins
	62	Sue Philo
	183	Helena Martin
4th Prize £27.00	143	Stella & Bill Mattingley
	124	Richard Green
	64	Nicky Johnston
	195	Annette & Chris Rayner
	46	Georgina Paton

BENEFICE 200 CLUB DRAW – 25th November 2018
Results of the 2nd Draw of the year [quarter ending 31 December 2018]
Following Morning Prayer
At St Nicholas Church, Baulking, on Sunday 25th November 2018

1st Prize £150.00	155	Sally Holmes
2nd Prize £55.00	111	Hilary Deakin
	191	Ray Avenell
	140	Steve Harris
3rd Prize £ 35.00	131	Maureen McBain
	103	Roberta Jarvis
	62	Sue Philo
	27	L D E Hollingworth
	28	Pam Cale
4th Prize £27.00	107	David & Ann Coxhead
	39	Jeremy Goulston
	200	Elaine Baber
	158	Benedikt Von Michel
	4	Carol Wadsworth

We have had some lovely weather this summer, but I am afraid that all good things eventually come to an end. Approaching is a need to think about those cold November days and be prepared with a good stock of fuel oil in the tank for the boiler. It is noticeable how the nationwide fuel oil prices have continued to creep upwards since this time last year. Anything that we can do to reduce the cost of this monopoly energy supply for rural areas, helps.

The Community First Oxfordshire bulk fuel oil scheme has been operating for eight years and our three parishes were one of the first to set up a membership. There are regular monthly order dates and you submit your order to the local coordinator or directly to the purchasing agent who negotiates with the oil companies. There is a membership subscription that supports CFO but with the bulk order purchasing power that the scheme has, this is easily recovered. The scheme has over 800 members in Oxfordshire and last year placed orders for over 1.6 million litres.

The smallest order you can place is for 500 litres. For this you pay the same price per litre as for the maximum order of 2,399 litres. This avoids the premium that oil companies invariably put on smaller orders and so helps with budgeting.

It is good for the environment as well with only one tanker from the successful company being despatched to the area rather than several different ones.

If you would like further information on the scheme, do not hesitate to contact me (820385). Information is also available on the Community First Oxfordshire website at www.communityfirstoxon.org Follow the "Community First Oil & LPG" icon.

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ELM TREE SURGERY SHRIVENHAM

PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION SERVICE

Will patients ordering repeat prescriptions from the Surgery please note that they should now do so before 12.30 pm on the Monday of the week in which they are needed, earlier orders would of course be welcomed. Prescriptions will then be available in the Post Office on the following Thursday.

* * * * *

UFFINGTON BAULKING AND WOOLSTONE MINIBUS ASSOCIATION

Our community minibus, which seats 16 people plus a driver, exists for use by all within our villages and the surrounding area, for social and recreational activities. A team of volunteer drivers operates regular shopping trips, and the minibus may also be reserved by local groups and individual members of the community for their own purposes.

It is necessary for villagers and local groups to join the UBW Minibus Association in order to use the minibus. Membership is available to all, and there is no charge to join.

The shopping trips are to Faringdon every Tuesday and Wantage every Wednesday and Friday. We leave Patricks Orchard, Uffington at 9.30, picking up and setting down members where convenient for them.

The Association is run on a 'not for profit' basis. There is a modest fare for the shopping trips, and Bus Passes may be used.

Group and individual private bookings are charged a flat fee of £20, plus 80p per mile driven, plus VAT. Insurance and fuel are included.

The Association has an ongoing need for new volunteers to drive or assist with administration, in order to sustain our activities. The driving commitment is about one morning a month. A full car licence is required, and training is provided.

Please call John Hatcher (01367 820417) for further information.

* * * * *

UFFINGTON PLAYERS

Christine Holley

The Uffington Players Present

Goldilocks And The Three Bears

A Pantomime by Graham Barraclough

The Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington

Thursday 21st February £7/£9

**Friday 22nd & Saturday 23rd £10/£12.50 Includes Fish & Chip supper.
Doors open at 7pm. Curtain up at 7.30pm**

Tickets will be available from Uffington Stores 01367 820977
Or on line at ticketsource.co.uk/the_uffington-players

For further information please contact Christine Holley 01367 820474 or
email christineholley28@hotmail.co.uk

* * * * *

AFTERNOON CLUB

Ann Smith

We wish everyone A Happy and Healthy 2019

We have many people to thank who have supported us during 2018 especially The White Horse Show Trust and The Parish Council for their donations, these will help us continue to take members out for lunch (many who eat alone otherwise) and meetings in the hall. Thank you to the mini bus drivers who kindly help us out giving their time free .

A special big Thank you goes to The Children and Staff of Uffington School who once again came and sang carols to us with out music, they were enjoyed by all

Our first meeting for 2019 will be in the hall at 2pm on January 10th

We meet 2nd Thursday of the month at 2pm, new members welcome

* * * * *

UFFINGTON MAYPOLE AND FETE

Pat Gaule

It seems that some people don't like the idea of the Maypole 1916 Revival, but most people do. The main problem is getting someone to organise it.

I'm wondering if it would be a good idea to revive the Garden Fete from the 1940's that was held in the grounds of the Manor House, combining both revivals would make it a much more interesting and strong event.

Many of the events from the Garden Fete included lots of different types of races for the children. Mix all this in with medieval music plus 'Punch & Judy', Archery, Morris Dancing – the list is endless. There are many talented people in the village who have an interest in such things.

Now! For several years the Uffington Show has been struggling - I believe it's had its day. How the wonderful people who have kept it going - against all odds - I take my hat off for them! Maybe they could organise and run the Maypole and Fete Show. They have the experience and the enthusiasm.

My friend, Georgi Schwyzer, who lived for many years in Fawler Manor and now lives in Florida, has written articles about Uffington. He believes the Americans would be most interested in visiting Uffington because of the amazing history. The White Horse, Waylands Smithy, The Ridgeway, Dragon Hill. If they visited they would bring lots of money to spend. Edie Ayers says she would be prepared to make those wonderful Beatrix Potter animals.

Also, if they knew she was married to Pam Ayers brother, they would be happy to buy such an unusual present to take back, maybe several, as the items are not mass-produced but hand crafted. Maybe we could get Pam Ayers to open the show. Ok, perhaps we haven't enough time to do it in 2019, maybe the following year – but we could organise a mini Fete to practice.

NB These are the personal views held by the author

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