

# The Courier



## Uffington Parish Council

# The Courier

Produced by J.F.N.Packford

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## **UFFINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Simon Jenkins**

### **The Council**

Uffington Parish Council has six councillors. They serve four year terms, with elections next due in May 2023, the composition of the Parish Council is:

Mr Simon Jenkins (Chair) Tel. 01367 820776	<a href="mailto:simon.jenkins@uffington.net">simon.jenkins@uffington.net</a>
Mr Mike Oldnall (Vice Chair)	<a href="mailto:mike.oldnall@uffington.net">mike.oldnall@uffington.net</a>
Mr Graham Banks	<a href="mailto:graham.banks@uffington.net">graham.banks@uffington.net</a>
Mrs Fenella Oberman	<a href="mailto:fenella.oberman@uffington.net">fenella.oberman@uffington.net</a>
Mr Dale Pilchowski	<a href="mailto:dale.pilchowski@uffington.net">dale.pilchowski@uffington.net</a>
Mr Nigel Puddicombe	<a href="mailto:nigel.puddicombe@uffington.net">nigel.puddicombe@uffington.net</a>
<b>Clerk</b>	
Mrs Julia Evans Tel: 01235 833466	<a href="mailto:uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com">uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com</a>
Mrs Julia Evans (Alternative)	<a href="mailto:parishcouncil@uffington.net">parishcouncil@uffington.net</a>

The Chair and Clerk may be contacted on the above telephone numbers or email addresses. 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 8.00 pm) 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. We particularly welcome residents with planning applications that are to be considered at the meeting, to come and tell us about the application and explain any specific points which they may wish to make.

**Advertising in the Courier.** The policy on Advertising is available in the website - <https://www.uffington.net/> In summary, the costs for advertising in four issues of the Courier (one year) AND inclusion in the website pages entitled Essential Contacts or Local Businesses as appropriate are very modest, as follows:

- ¼ page or less: £20.00
- ½ page: £40.00
- Full page: £75.00
- Advertisements on the website only: £10.00 (Links to external commercial sites are acceptable, at the discretion of the Council)

Anybody wishing to advertise should please contact either the Clerk or the Chairman of the Council – contact details are above. In order to enlarge the readership of the Courier, thereby making it more attractive to advertisers, extra copies have been distributed in the last year to a number of shops, pubs and other outlets outside of the UBW villages.

## **Communications Survey April 2019**

### **Background**

1. With one of the Parish Council's objectives for 2019 being to improve communications with our parishioners, it was decided to conduct a short survey to establish a baseline and identify areas for improvement.
2. The survey was carried out on paper and on line during the month of April. There were 54 respondents with approximately a third replying on line.

### **Summary of Findings**

1. The number of respondents (54) was disappointing, but probably representative of those most interested in the events and affairs of the village.
2. 85% felt that the amount of information from the Parish Council was 'about right'
3. The most popular (88%) form of communication was the Weekly Email followed by The Courier, Website and Nextdoor.
4. 84% of respondents read The Courier and 80% wish to retain it and there was a wide range of suggestions for changes to the content.
5. There was general support for advertising in The Courier with many wanting 'local tradesman' advertisements and agreeing that advertisements should be charged for to help defray the cost.
6. Most responses were positive and supportive. There was one particularly negative response which also contained some constructive suggestions.

**Way Ahead.** Generally, the Parish Council is pleased that we seem to have got it 'about right'. The more detailed responses and suggestions were considered at the August meeting of the Council, and are shown below:

## Recommendations endorsed by the Parish Council

Serial	Topic	Summary of Responses	Recommendation(s)
1	Weekly Email	The weekly email was consistently voted as being very useful and timely and should be continued.	Retain as is, but consider keeping it as short as possible with links to more verbose information (e.g. website). A summary will be placed on the notice board to make the information available to those without internet access.
2	Courier	Almost all respondents wished to retain the Courier; colour appreciated.	Retain; but content could be improved in a variety of ways. Under review – see 7 below. We are working with Jem Packford (who has produced the Courier for many years) on this.
		Mixed responses on adverts. Many want more local/emergency tradesmen details.	Include details of how to advertise in each edition of the Courier. Adverts now spread throughout, so more prominent.
		Adverts supported to help defray costs.	Continue to encourage and charge.
		Personal views / rants / comments should not be included.	Editorial action to ensure these are excluded.
3	Website	Not widely used.	Publicise periodically; use links to website from weekly email where relevant.
		Quite a few comments asking for more information, which is already on the website.	We will examine the structure to ensure 'stuff' is easy / easier to find.
4	Nextdoor	Mixed comments.	Pass to point of contact.
5	Welcome Pack	Appreciated.	Continue.
6	Notice Boards	Few comments that the notice boards are not easy to access / read.	We have checked siting and access and believe OK.
		Wider use could be made to advertise clubs etc.	All clubs are encouraged to use the Courier, weekly e-mail and notice boards more widely.
7	Other	Some comments indicate that some people do not appreciate / understand how the various publications relate.	We will draw up a simple 'communications strategy' to show how weekly email, website and Courier relate to each other.

### Jubilee Field – Autumn Tidy

Save the date: The Autumn Tidy will take place on Saturday 2 November, with Sunday as a back-up day.

### Hedges and Ditches

**Hedges.** A reminder that householders are responsible for ensuring their hedges do not overhang pavements, footpaths or roads beyond the boundary of their property.

**Ditches. It is essential that the ditches around the village run freely.** As the autumn approaches, if you need some assistance in clearing ditches which are your responsibility, please contact the Parish Council at [uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com)

### **The Jubilee Field and Pond**

We have recently been asked by a resident why the pond is partially dredged every two or three years, so we thought it would be worthwhile laying out the Parish Council's policy for managing the Jubilee Field (including the pond). Since the Jubilee Field came into the possession of the Parish Council in the 1970's the policy has been to maintain a balance between providing:

1. A tidy, well-kept area for the benefit of residents, especially families, children and tourists, which is part of the overall attraction of the village, and,
2. A diverse wild life-friendly area, where intrusive management and maintenance is kept to a minimum, to encourage and protect animals.

The edges of the Jubilee Field include the pond and fall into the second category. The pond also has an essential role in managing flood prevention risks in the village. There are a number of inter-connected streams carrying water around the village, and away from it. They all carry a quantity of silt and in this respect the purpose of the pond is to act as a sort of settling tank or sump; the silt settles in the pond and clear water is released to the stream on the High Street. The following is an explanation of this natural process:

'Silt collects on the bottoms of rivers, lakes and ponds; silt is a fine sediment that is caused by the decay of organisms into the water. The build-up of silt will lead to a reduction in water depth, an increased risk of flooding and potentially the loss of the watercourse. This usually occurs in autumn when plants die back and trees lose their leaves it is also caused by run off from surrounding land as well as the decomposing of natural materials.

'Oxygen levels at the lake bed will diminish and organic waste will not be oxidised. Water quality will deteriorate significantly impacting aquatic flora and fauna, making *desilting* a vital process. Left for nature to take its course, waste build up will continue until emergent plants colonise the surface and eventually small trees and scrub will become established and the lake will disappear altogether.

‘In order to extend the life of a lake or body of water and promote biodiversity, it is necessary to periodically remove the build-up of silt from the lake bed. Silt removed from a lake or water body is classified as waste by the Environment Agency, and as such is subject to the waste regulations. However, as it is created from decomposed organic material, run-off from surrounding fields and waste from aquatic animals it is a rich source of growing material and as such can be recycled on site rather than be removed as waste.’

Complementary to this, advice from the Environment Agency is to ‘manage only part of the pond at any one time and always keep some of the existing habitat as it is, including some of the leaf litter, logs and woody debris. Aim to maintain diversity in the pond complex.’

We have no evidence that any protected species live in the pond, but it is possible, for example, that there are water voles (known to live elsewhere in the village) and newts. We therefore manage the pond in a very sensitive way which does not endanger any protected species. This means dredging about one third of the pond periodically, in the autumn after the breeding season, and depositing the extracted silt on the edges, so that water and aquatic organisms can trickle back into the pond.

The last dredge was in 2016; we are planning to commission another one this autumn.

### **Parking**

**Please do NOT park on Broad Street by the School**, 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.

The Parish Council received a serious complaint in August about the problems caused by inconsiderate parking at the junction of the High Street and Patricks Orchard. We asked residents in this area, as well as their visitors, to be mindful both of the traffic which passes through on a busy road, and of those who live in the area. **Please always park considerately.** Please make use of all available off-street parking, and never block the highway or pavement.

### **Uffington and Baulking Neighbourhood Plan**

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

The final ‘Made’ version of the Uffington and Baulking Neighbourhood Plan has

been placed on the village website, with all the supporting reference documents, here: <https://www.uffington.net/community-neighbourhood-plans/neighbourhood-plan/>

The Plan is also currently available on the UBW NP website here: <https://www.ubwnp.net/public-consultation/made-version/>

We are expecting the VOWHDC to produce printed copies shortly which will be displayed in the two Churches for a six week period; they will also place it on their website. This will be the final opportunity for any legal challenges. At the conclusion of this period, expected to be around the end of October, the UBW NP website will be closed down, and the final documents will remain available on the village website and on application to the Parish Council. Archive copies will be kept in the Museum and can be viewed by arrangement with the Curator, Karen Pilcher, e-mail: [museum@uffington.net](mailto:museum@uffington.net)

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

The following have been **approved** by the Vale District Council:

- P19/V1077/HH - Packers Forge, High Street. Two storey rear extension, internal remodelling, removal of outbuilding and erection of three-bay garage.
- P19/V1075/HH - Little Thatch, Broad Street. Alterations to access, driveway and front garden.
- P19/V1647/FUL (and other linked applications) – The Laurels, Broad Street. Internal and external refurbishment

The following are **awaiting determination**:

- P19/V1990/HH - 7 Jacksmeadow. Single storey side and rear extension.
- P19/V2064/HH – Land adjacent to Dragon Hill. New self-build four bedroom detached house, with attached garage.

The following applications have been **withdrawn**:

- P19/V1641/FUL – Chapel Field, Fawler Road. Agricultural barn for storage of farm machinery

The following **Appeal** has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate:

- APP/V3120/W/19/3235719 – Common Farm, Lower Common. Appeal against refusal of permission for three dwellings. Deadline for representations is 31 October

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.

## **Oxfordshire County Council Consultation**

The OCC consultation period on the ‘Application to rectify the Common Land Register at Pond House, Uffington, Oxon, SN7 7SB’ closed on 15 July.

## **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).

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:uffingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com)

## NOTICES

### **1<sup>st</sup> Uffington Brownies**

It is a pleasure to welcome Vikki Bond and Victoria Lawson to the roles of Brown Owl and Tawny Owl for 1<sup>st</sup> Uffington Brownies, after Tina Monk retired as Brown Owl earlier this year, having spent nearly ten years in the role. Tina continues to run 1<sup>st</sup> Uffington Guides, so we are pleased that she remains part of the team. It proves to be an action-packed term for the Brownies, with lots of exciting activities on the 'have adventures' and 'express myself' themes from the girlguiding programme; culminating in the annual ice skate at Millets in December.

If you have a daughter aged 7-10 years who would like to join in the fun, please drop an email to [first\\_uffington\\_brownies@outlook.com](mailto:first_uffington_brownies@outlook.com) we love to welcome new members!

### **Bell ringing in Uffington**

Do you like the sound of church bells on a Sunday morning? We practice on Tuesday evenings in St. Mary's church at 7:30 and always welcome new-comers and novices. If you would like to try your hand at this ancient and time-honoured skill, and you are over 12 years old then please get in touch with the Tower Captain, Hugh Baxter - tel: 01367 8200140 or email: [hughbaxter@gmail.com](mailto:hughbaxter@gmail.com)



*'Under expert guidance, you're never too young to try'*

### **From the Vale District Council**

**Good news for local groups and not-for-profit organisations.** Grants worth up to £75,000 are available for community groups. Local groups in the Vale of White Horse can apply for grants totalling up to £75,000 as part of a community grant scheme which has opened this month. Anyone interested in New Homes Bonus grants should see more information on the council's website, here: <http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/community-advice-and-support/grants> or get in contact with the Community Enablement Team on 01235 422405 / [grants@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:grants@southandvale.gov.uk).

\* \* \* \* \*



Dear All,

'And did those feet in ancient time...?' – Well, possibly not, but you never know, and it's certainly worth a Pilgrimage to 'Glasto' to find out. The Pilgrimage is in July each year. If there are any takers for this coming year, do let me know. – I've never done it but I'd like to, and maybe with a pram?...

My point is that in all the political soup of this autumn, and doubtless winter, where does one go for solace? You could do a lot worse than attend the William Blake exhibition at the Tate Britain. If you get there before me, please let me know how you find it. Blake is one of my all time heroes. Probably because he was more than a little offbeat, to put it mildly. A good place to start, if you want to begin to understand where he was coming from, is Peter Ackroyd's brilliant biography, 'Blake'.

Another way in could be through Heavy Metal, if metal is your thing. Bruce Dickinson's 'Chemical Wedding' gives a great modern peak into Blake's ethereal world.

If Blake and his world born out of the smoke stacks of 18<sup>th</sup> century London, visions of the bible, and poetic justice, don't float your boat then you might try Antony Gormley's exhibition at the Royal Academy, until 3<sup>rd</sup> December. This is another kind of heavy metal altogether. Perhaps best-known for his 200-tonne *Angel of the North* installation near Gateshead, and his project involving members of the public for Trafalgar Square's 'Fourth Plinth', Gormley is one of our most celebrated sculptors. His aim seems to be keeping humanity at the centre of what otherwise might be huge, depersonalising, structures. He has a Catholic background, and has interesting things to say about the subliminal effect of this on his work.

Another antidote to the 'B' word is definitely having a small baby to contend with, and a podengo thrown in! I posted a picture on Facebook of the two of them lying side by side on our sofa in *relative* harmony. I like to think they were conversing with one another, in a very humane way. Civilised, and truthful, conversation – now that would be a fine thing. Mine's a pint of White Horse.

With love, and peas (*sic*),

Jeremy

\* \* \* \* \*

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Whenever the calendar marks that the White Horse Show has passed, my thoughts tend to turn to the approach of colder weather. This in turn, the need to be stocked up with adequate fuel oil particularly over the December, January and February period.

Community First Oxfordshire (previously Oxfordshire Rural Community Council) has been operating a bulk Fuel Oil buying scheme since February 2011. Uffington, Baulking and Woolstone were the first to set up a membership and to have a coordinator. 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. The present purchasing agent is A.F. Affinity (Anglia Farmers) who have massive purchasing power to negotiate with the oil companies. There is a membership subscription that supports CFO but with the bulk order purchasing power that the scheme employs; this is easily recovered by members resulting in very competitive prices. The scheme has over 800 members in Oxfordshire alone and over fifty in UBW. The smallest order you can place is 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 regular orders and so helps with budgeting. The scheme is good for the environment as well with only one tanker from the successful company being despatched to blitz the area rather than several different ones.

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

Note that bulk LPG and bottles are also directly available through CFO.

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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.

\* \* \* \* \*

**CALENDAR FOR 2019/2020**

Everyone is welcome and for further information please contact:

Mary Plant marysheilaplant@hotmail.com Tel 07564538501

We meet at the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall on the following dates and times:

<b>DATE</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>SPEAKER &amp; TITLE</b>
15 October	Tuesday	7pm	Annamaria Kiss. Alternative Christmas Crafts
19 November	Tuesday	7pm	Richard McMahon. This Children's Air Ambulance Service
17 December	Tuesday	7pm	Christmas Lunch at Denman College

**2020**

21 January	Tuesday	7pm	Kevin Little. Fishy Tales
11 February	Tuesday	7pm	Dr Rob Russ. Diabetes
17 March	Tuesday	7pm	Annual Meeting
21 April	Tuesday	7pm	Barbara Harley. Changi Quilts.

The April meeting with Barbara Hudson was very entertaining indeed. The title of her talk, "Can You Turn Your Life Around after 60?" might have suggested taking up new interests, which in a way, it did. The interest was not embroidery or walking football, but on line dating. Barbara talked very engagingly about her experiences both positive and occasionally negative and always with humour.

In May Dr R Russ tackled the topic of Mental Health : a wide subject and one which is frequently misunderstood . My apologies for the brevity of this part, but I was not able to be at this meeting, however the doctor's talks are always informative, often humorous and well worth coming to hear.

The illustrated talk in June was something completely different again. Al Sylvester MBE took us through his journey (in all senses of the word), as he put together a team to reach the South Pole and the difficulties faced by the team in making their way towards their destination. We learned about the hardships they faced, the dangers from the weather, the terrain and the fight to save the life of one of the members. It was a thrilling talk.

In July the Open Meeting was held in the Sports' Club where Graham Kirby introduced us to his hobby of "Miniature Hat Collecting". This was an interest sparked off by his mother many years ago. The talk included the history behind some of the hats and was illustrated with a small part of his collection.

Another completely different meeting was that held in August when we were fortunate to enjoy excellent summer weather for a walk along the Thames path from Buscot to Lechlade . The walkers and grandchildren were joined by other members at the Trout for an excellent lunch before returning to Buscot.

**FUTURE MEETINGS** :20th September saw Hazel Harris tackle "Autumn Harvest" flower arranging with the group in time for Harvest festivals. Moving on through celebrations, in October we will be focussing on "Alternative Christmas Crafts" which sounds intriguing. November we have Richard McMahon talking about the Children's" Air Ambulance Service. We are going to Denman College in December for a Christmas lunch and then in the New Year Kevin Little's talk is on "Fishy Tales". In February, on the second Tuesday of the month (not the third as is usually the case), Dr Russ will talk about diabetes. Maybe we should hold back on the biscuits that night! March sees our Annual Meeting and in April Barbra Hately will talk about "Changi Quilts" which should be fascinating.

Meetings are held in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall in Uffington from 7pm. If you are new to the area or wonder what we are about , come along and meet us. You don't have to sing or bake unless you want to! Guests are also welcomed to the talks for a small fee. We hope to see you there.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **UFFINGTON PLAYERS**

**Christine Holley**

The Uffington Players are starting to plan the next pantomime which will take place in the February half term 2020. We are always looking for help in all areas, so if you think you might like to be involved, or would like more information then please contact;

Christine Holley 01367 820474 or email [christineholley28@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:christineholley28@hotmail.co.uk) We would love to hear from you.

For further information and pictures please visit our website.  
[www.uffingtonplayers.co.uk](http://www.uffingtonplayers.co.uk)

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## **AFTERNOON CLUB**

**Ann Smith**

We have had a varied programme during the Spring and Summer months. We met the Uffington Hare, sang along with Beryl, had a Strawberry tea, played Bingo, had tea at Stanford coffee shop and a flower demonstration.

We are now planning for Christmas lunch and Christmas party.

Two of our regular members have passed away - Mrs Marcella Seymour and Mrs Barbara Hughes, our condolences to both families

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## SCHOOL NOTICEBOARD.

A new academic year always brings much change within school as children adjust to being in a different class and begin the next stage of their learning journey. This week Wayland class held and organised our annual coffee morning for Macmillan – thank you so much to all of those who attended and donated cakes. Lots of money was raised for this important cause.

Our new class topics are underway ranging from Ancient Egypt to Superheroes. All of them start with a question. In White Horse class it is “Who am I?” and in Wayland class it is, what makes a great story? Alongside these topics, our pupils are pursuing a range of enrichment activities from sports to performing rock with electric guitars, drums, keyboards and vocals! They are also learning two foreign languages French and Italian – it is wonderful to be greeted by them with Ciao or bonjour! Wayland class are having a go at writing some of Macbeth in French!

Thanks to the generosity of our PTA and the White Horse Show our library make over will soon be complete. The children and staff have chosen some fabulous books – so look out for details on our website for the grand opening!

Looking ahead we have our Harvest Festival in the church on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm and our Remembrance service will be held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 10.45am. Our school Carol service will take place in church on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December (time to be confirmed) please do come to any of these if you can – we would love to see you!

Mrs Lisa Bradbury, Head Teacher

# UFFINGTON TODDLERS

**Thursdays 9.30 - 11** (in school terms)

**Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington, SN7 7SB**

**£2 per family / carer group**

- ★ play and craft
- ★ carpeted area for babies/crawlers
- ★ hot drinks & biscuits for grown ups
- ★ healthy snacks for kids



*All carers with babies and pre-schoolers welcome!*

**Facebook @uffingtontoddlers**

**Or contact Katherine: 07916 285305**

# Property Maintenance & Repair

Please contact Charlie if you need property maintenance, DIY or repair services

## INSIDE WORK:

- Interior painting and decorating, re-decoration, repairs to woodwork, painting windows
- General repairs around the house (non-structural)
- Bespoke hardwood carpentry projects undertaken
- Putting up roller blinds, bookshelves, curtain rails, hanging large pictures
- Repairing the kitchen floor where your puppy has chewed the Lino into pieces!
- Finishing those DIY jobs that just didn't get completed.....
- Excellent IKEA assembler..... 'Those dreaded flat packs.....'

## OUTSIDE WORK:

- All garden jobs
- Small, new fencing jobs
- Repairs to existing post and rails, wire repairs
- Hanging and rehangng gates
- timber treatment for sheds, fences, garden furniture
- Guttering, furniture and fittings and clearance

Available to co-work on an existing project, where a second pair of hands may be needed.	Competitive hourly rates. No VAT. No job too small.	2019 Enhanced DBS certificate  Full Insurance and Public Liability	Excellent local referees available, on request. 40+ years' experience	All materials required are locally sourced & collected / or delivery arranged.	Free initial visit to discuss potential projects in a radius of 10 miles from St Nicholas Church, Baulking.
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**CONTACT CHARLIE**

Phone, text or WhatsApp on 07572 010879 (all hours)

Email: [charlesjbuxton@gmail.com](mailto:charlesjbuxton@gmail.com)

# **THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH**

(Registered Charity No. 1137929)

## **SUNDAY**

### **LUNCHESES**

Thomas Hughes

Memorial Hall Uffington

**1<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

**2nd February 2020**

**1st March 2020**

Bar open at 12:30 pm

Lunch served at 13:00 **prompt**

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**Wine & soft drinks also available**

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**WHITE HORSE GARDEN CLUB PROGRAMME 2019**

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. <a href="http://www.davidaustinroses.com">www.davidaustinroses.com</a>
05-Dec	THURSDAY	7.00	TALK	30th ANNIVERSARY TALK - GROW GREAT VEG AND HAVE FUN PIPPA GREENWOOD. <a href="http://www.pippagreenwood.com">www.pippagreenwood.com</a> , Tickets £5 members. Visitors £10. Seasonal refreshments inc.

We are delighted to be able to welcome our guest celebrity speaker in December, Pippa Greenwood who has been a regular on both Gardeners' Question Time and Gardeners' World.

Tickets are already selling well. If you wish to come along tickets are available from: Hilary Deakin, 01367 820542 or [hilary@humanaspects.co.uk](mailto:hilary@humanaspects.co.uk) £5 member £10 guests

Any further enquiries contact: Pamela Preene 01367 820251 or [parrottspreene@aol.com](mailto:parrottspreene@aol.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**TOM BROWN'S SCHOOL MUSEUM****Karen Pilcher (Curator)**

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- Write a review on Trip Advisor [www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Write a review/Tom Brown's School Museum](http://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/WriteaReview/TomBrown'sSchoolMuseum)
- Register for Easyfundraising [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/Causes/Uffington Museum Trust](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/Causes/UffingtonMuseumTrust)
- Visit the museum. If you have friends visiting bring them along too !

\* \* \* \* \*

## UFFINGTON TENNIS CLUB

Rob Hart (Club Chairman)

It has been another action packed summer for the Tennis Club! Not only have we had really well attended club nights every Wednesday, we have also had a superb summer tournament and BBQ and have had real success in the leagues! Our club nights run every Wednesday from 1830hrs throughout the summer, and while these are starting to run out of daylight now, we intend to carry on at the weekends on a Saturday morning throughout the winter. Everyone very welcome, any ability, just turn up and join in. We usually have 6-10 players so you won't be alone and everyone will be very welcoming. Our tournament in July was excellent too. An action packed afternoon with 2 ladders running on the club courts, followed by a final at Woolstone Lodge and a lovely BBQ, run jointly with the Church. Fabulous tennis from all competitors and a lovely social event to finish it all off. Finally, we ran both mens and ladies teams in the local leagues over the summer. Our mens team did well to survive against limited player availability but our ladies team did superbly and came top of their division - well done them! If you have any interest in tennis at all, do join us, lots of opportunity for fitness and fun and to make new friends. Contact our membership secretary Lynne Artus at [lynne.artus@btinternet.com](mailto:lynne.artus@btinternet.com). Hope to see you soon.

\* \* \* \* \*



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## THE FRIENDS OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH

Geoffrey Foster (chairman)

The Friends of Saint Mary's church is a registered Charity, the aim of which is to fund raise towards projects which are normally outside the scope of the churches general maintenance programme.

Over the past twelve months we have awarded a grant towards renewing the lightning conductors on the church tower, and we will continue to fund raise towards other projects over the winter.

As part of our fund raising we will be holding our ever popular Sunday lunches on December 1st 2019, February 2nd 2020 and 1st March 2020.

Book early and don't be disappointed

\* \* \* \* \*



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## 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.

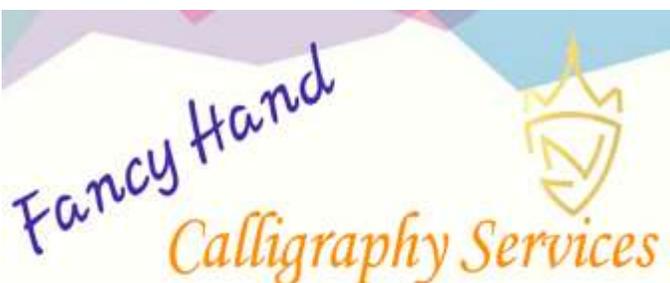
The shopping trips are to Faringdon every Tuesday and Wantage every Wednesday and Friday. We leave Patricks Orchard, Uffington at 9.30, picking up and setting down members where convenient for them.

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.



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## THEY'RE ALL GONE NOW

The room seems so empty and quiet. I sit here thinking, 'has it been worthwhile, all those years doing the job I love? I didn't get paid a lot, maybe if I'd chosen a different career, I would have been better off money wise!' I remember thinking, 'now they have left for the 'bigger school' how would they manage? I'll probably never see any of them again. I expect they've forgotten about me already!

I was going to give them a 'Farewell Speech' but somehow, I couldn't get started.

"Sir" said one of them "are you crying?"

"Certainly not, I have something in my eye" I replied.

Yes, they've all gone!

Oh! What's this? It's a package! On my desk. I opened it. A red coloured heart with 'Dear Sir, we thank you for all the years you have taught us. Though sometimes we were naughty, you were never angry and, even when you were not well, you still came in. When we first started school, we were all frightened of the bad stick, which was hung over the door. We were scared if we did anything wrong, we would be punished. Then you took the bad stick down and said 'I will not be teaching you by using this dreadful stick, to scare you, I will burn his on my bonfire!'

We all clapped and cheered, we were so happy. Then you said, 'some of you have different colour skins, some white, some black, some yellow. Now I want you all to pretend your skins are clothes, so instead of teasing each other and, not being nice to those with different clothes, imagine if you took your clothes off, you are all the same underneath.

Well, we loved that and, now say I wish I could wear your clothes and, we giggle, it's so much fun. When we get to the big school, we want to teach them what you have told us, then life will become much nicer and, the world a better place!

'Thank you, children', I'm thinking now I know, I made the right decision to teach.

Also, they learnt a valuable lesson and respect for others.

I have to smile, they knew all along I had lied about crying!

## THE UFFINGTON WHITE HORSE

Why did you do this to me, all those years ago?

I was once a horse, free to roam all over the Downs.

You tried to catch me, but I was too fast. So, in revenge, you cut a stupid figure of me into the side of a hill. My head looks like a bird and, why did you separate my legs from my body? Some sick joke to mean I could never escape!

You didn't realise that I have a 'spirit' which allows me to still roam all over the Downs, you didn't know that!

Though I can never really escape that figure on the Downs, I am now a tourist attraction, famous all over the world.

If you were still alive you wouldn't like that, so really you have helped me, I'm proud to be a tourist attraction and, the people, all them, loving me!

P.G.

\* \* \* \* \*

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