

The Four Parishes News Magazine

BECKLEY
FOREST HILL with SHOTOVER
HORTON-cum-STUDLEY
STANTON St JOHN



Waiting for the 108 bus in Beckley, February 2024

March 2024

The editor writes



Welcome to another Four Parishes Magazine, full of news about events in our vibrant community and other interesting information. From litter picking and coffee mornings to concerts, talks, and craft workshops for children, there is something for everyone.

Easter is early this year, with Easter Sunday falling on 31 March. You will find more information about how our churches celebrate Easter on pages 9 - 10. You may also be intrigued by news of the revival of the Beckley Passion Play, which is referred to on page 10.

If you find that your magazine has disappeared under a pile of papers a few days after its arrival, don't despair, because you can still read it online on the Four Parishes website. **If you go to <https://www.fourparishes.org.uk/magazine>, you will find the current magazine, together with past issues going back to January 2018.** Most people still express surprise when I mention this, hence the reminder!

All the people who deliver the magazine to your door are volunteers, as am I, my assistant editors, and all our contributors. I am extremely grateful to them all, and to our loyal advertisers, without whom we could not afford to publish the magazine in print format. Please check out the advertisements at the back of the magazine and support our local businesses when you can.

It remains to wish you all a very Happy Easter!

Julia

All contributions to this magazine are the sole responsibility of the author and do not imply or represent any official editorial view or endorsement.

Our cover photo

was taken by Jim Conrad-Hurt

If you have taken a photo which you think might be suitable for the cover of the next magazine, please email it to 4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com

Benefice of Beckley, Forest Hill with Shotover, Horton-cum-Studley and Stanton St John

Vicar: Reverend Anthea Beresford

anthea@fourparishes.org.uk

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We welcome contributions for future issues, but please get in touch with the editorial team beforehand at 4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com to discuss any piece you'd like to write. Contributors typically live in the Four Parishes, or have a strong personal connection to the area. The editors reserve the right to reject any submitted content at any stage of the editorial process.

Recent issues of the magazine are available to view online at www.fourparishes.org.uk/magazine.

The closing date for the April 2024 issue is 15 March 2024

**To advertise in the magazine please email JULIA
adverts.4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com**

News or notices for the individual 'Village pages' should be sent to:

Beckley Vacant at present. Send direct to the editor.

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Benefice of Beckley, Forest Hill with Shotover, Horton-cum-Studley and Stanton St John

The Reverend Anthea Beresford is Vicar of the Church of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Beckley, St Nicolas Church in Forest Hill, St Barnabas Church in Horton-cum-Studley, and St John the Baptist Church in Stanton St John. Anthea is supported by a team of voluntary clergy, lay ministers and churchwardens, whose details are listed below.

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Church Services in the Four Parishes, March 2024

	St Nicolas, Forest Hill with Shotover	St John the Baptist, Stanton St John	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Beckley	St Barnabas, Horton-cum- Studley
3 March <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Morning Prayer
	4pm Children's Service at St Nicolas, Forest Hill			
	6pm Church Without Walls at Stanton St John Village Hall			
10 March <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	11am Mothering Sunday Morning Prayer	9.30am Mothering Sunday Morning Prayer	9.30am Mothering Sunday Morning Prayer	11am Mothering Sunday Holy Communion
	4pm Mothering Sunday Messy Church at Stanton St John Village Hall			
	6pm BCP Choral Evensong at St Nicolas, Forest Hill			

Church Services in the Four Parishes, March 2024 (cont.)

	St Nicolas, Forest Hill with Shotover	St John the Baptist, Stanton St John	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Beckley	St Barnabas, Horton-cum- Studley
17 March <i>5th Sunday of Lent</i>	11am Morning Prayer (said)	9.30am Morning Prayer	9.30am BCP Holy Communion	11am Morning Prayer
	6pm Iona Service at Beckley			
24 March <i>Palm Sunday</i>	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion
	3pm Family Church does Forest Church at Bernwood Forest, Horton-cum-Studley			
	6pm Taizé Service via Zoom			
25 March <i>Monday of Holy Week</i>	7.30pm Holy Communion			
26 March <i>Tuesday of Holy Week</i>		7.30pm Holy Communion		
27 March <i>Wednesday of Holy Week</i>			7.30pm Holy Communion	
28 March <i>Maundy Thursday</i>				7.30pm Holy Communion
29 March <i>Good Friday</i>	12 noon Benefice Service of Reflection (Hour before the Cross) at Stanton			
30 March <i>Holy Saturday</i>	6pm Benefice Easter Vigil of Readings, Psalms and Prayers at Beckley			
31 March <i>Easter Sunday</i>	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion

Please check the website www.fourparishes.org.uk for any updates. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please email Anthea: anthea@fourparishes.org.uk.

A letter from Anthea

Hi everyone,



Oh my goodness! Is it possible for there to be yet more rain to come? Looking at the forecasts it seems the answer is yes! We have had quite a deluge over, what seems like quite some time now. It is a while since I was chatting with people who said there is more water lying on Otmoor than at any time over the thirty years they have lived here. Others have spoken of flooded roads in places never experienced before. Ditches, rivers, and streams have all overflowed in many parts.

I know the areas around Gloucester and Worcester well and travelled around them much over the years, but the sense of driving on a causeway around them seems more prevalent this winter than ever before. There are flooded sports pitches, the racecourse and cricket ground at Worcester are under water – not unique events by any means, but ongoing longer than usual it seems. Fortunately, I have not heard of houses flooding locally – that must be a dreadful experience.



Bertie has decided he is not keen on the hose pipe to clean him off when we return from our walks, so getting him out of the car if we have driven a short distance in the hope of slightly drier conditions to walk in has become a little tricky. I think he got the idea from his best friend who refuses to be hosed down however muddy he is. Play dates can be quite a nuisance, giving unhelpful ideas!! I bet parents suffer from this! But just like children, he loves splashing through the puddles, and wallowing through the mud!

Just as the ground begins to dry up, another onslaught comes – so I would not be surprised to hear of a modern day ‘Noah’ building an ark if it carries on like this!

Despite this, one of my recent delights was watching a two-year-old (child not dog!) in colourful wellies and an all-in-one suit to keep them dry, splashing away in the puddles as they walked down the road. There is something quite delightful seeing the innocent enjoyment of such a

simple activity – they were having a ball! And fortunately for the parents, the child kept dry! It is always good to try and find some positives when things are not looking so great.

As I write this we are in Lent, preparing ourselves for remembering the events of Holy Week and Easter. I would love to hear what you have been doing as Lenten disciplines if you have. I know many have engaged with the Come and See – The Way of Love materials from the Diocese of Oxford. It has been great meeting with some on Wednesday evenings, but some have been reading the booklet or daily emails so it would be good to hear how you have found them. You may have read one of the books I suggested or done something of your own. As you read this, there is still a while to go in Lent, so maybe this is a prompt to take a little time each day to think about the purpose and meaning of Lent.

There is much going on at the end of the month as we get to Holy Week and Easter. Please do take a good look at the magazine which details the activities and think about what you might like to join in with. If you have never been to a service on Palm Sunday, maybe this is the year to come along as see what goes on. There are gentle reflective services each evening during Holy Week, together with times for reflection on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, helping us to remember the story of the cross between the celebrations of Palm Sunday and Easter Day, reminding us of that critical part of the Christian story. Maybe you might like to join in the Passion Play in Beckley on Holy Saturday. Whatever might attract you, I look forward to once more making this journey with you all across the Four Parishes.

Please do get in touch if you need someone to talk to. Take great care and God bless you and your loved ones.

Anthea



The Reverend Anthea Beresford is Vicar of the Church of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Beckley, St Nicolas Church in Forest Hill, St Barnabas Church in Horton-cum-Studley, and St John the Baptist Church in Stanton St John.

CHURCH MATTERS

All the churches in the benefice are open daily. Beckley: 10am-6pm; Forest Hill, Horton-cum-Studley and Stanton St John: 10am-4pm.

Advent challenge and beyond

I wonder how your reading is coming along. I confess that at the time of writing, I am slightly behind, so need to do a bit of catching up. I am hoping that by the start of March I will be back on track! So if you too are a little behind, don't worry, just keep going. For March, for the Old Testament, we need to finish Numbers, read the whole of Deuteronomy and Joshua, and up to chapter 12 in Judges. For the New Testament we need to finish the Gospel of Mark and get up to chapter 6 in Luke. It would be a great achievement if we can manage to do this, so let's have a go and encourage one another. We can do this! Please do let me know how you get on.

Ongoing midweek activities on Zoom

We are continuing Morning and Evening Prayer and the Benefice Book Group on Zoom as detailed. Please do get in touch with Anthea for invitations if you wish to be included.

	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Morning prayer at 9am		Y		Y
Evening Prayer at 6pm	Y		Y	
Benefice Book Group at 7.30pm			Y	

Book Group

During Lent we are taking a break from reading *Kingdom of Fools: The Unlikely Rise of the Early Church* by Nick Page, and are reading *An Easter of Days: Meeting the Characters of the Cross and Resurrection* by Gregory K Cameron. If anyone would like to join us, please do get in touch with Anthea. All are welcome.

Children's craft workshop

This month's craft workshop is being held in The Abingdon Arms in Beckley on Friday 22 March from 3.30-5.30pm. The workshop has a theme of Easter. Children must be accompanied by an adult please. The workshop will be free as usual, and refreshments can be bought from the pub. Please do book in by emailing Betty Dye beforehand at betty.dye10@gmail.com if possible, to ensure we have sufficient resources to go round.

Come and See: The Way of Love: Lent 2024



A reminder that we are meeting in Stanton Village Hall on Wednesday evenings from 7.30-9pm during Lent (with the exception of Holy Week), and one week afterwards, so the remaining sessions are 6, 13 and 20 March, and 3 April. We will watch a short film from Bishop Steven, Bishop of Oxford, on the topic for the week, and then have a chat about the film in a friendly informal space, with refreshments to keep us going. Whilst the sessions do link together, each stands on its own too, so please do come and join us if you have not been before. A friendly welcome will greet you!

If you are reading the accompanying booklet or receiving the daily emails, I would love to hear how you are getting on. Please do get in touch with Anthea if you have any questions.

Holy Week and Easter

Holy week begins with **Palm Sunday** when we celebrate Jesus triumphal arrival in Jerusalem. Crowds met him, throwing palm branches on the road. There was a celebratory atmosphere, but we must not forget that Palm Sunday sets before us the suffering of Jesus, and the cross. We receive Palm Crosses during our services across the Benefice, which we take home as a reminder. Palm crosses from this year are burnt to provide the ash for next year's Ash Wednesday service.

To help ensure we do not go straight from the celebrations from Palm Sunday to those of Easter Day, and are once again reminded of the Cross and the suffering of Jesus for us, we observe Holy Week, through services, times of reflection and readings of the story of God's people. We look forward to welcoming you to services of Holy Communion from Monday through to Maundy Thursday at 7.30pm (see the rota on page 5). On Maundy Thursday we leave the Church in silence.

On **Good Friday** we have a service of reflection on the 'Hour before the Cross' in Stanton Church, where we spend time thinking about Jesus' death on the Cross, remembering his suffering for us, his agony, his death, and then his burial. It is essential that we come to the Cross and face it squarely, in all its horrors – this time of reflection helps us do that.

Holy Saturday is a time of desolation and emptiness as we remember the reality of Jesus' death –his life was over! His death was every bit as complete and final for him as it is for us.

At 6pm we meet in church in Beckley to bring to mind the story of God's people, through readings from Genesis to the Gospels, from the Psalms, and through prayer.

On **Easter Day** we gather across the benefice to celebrate what many consider the most holy day of the Christian calendar: the astonishing good news of the empty tomb and the risen Lord. We look forward to celebrating this special day together, when we say 'Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!'

Beckley Passion Play, Saturday 30 March, 2pm

As we revive this fabulous village tradition, we're still looking for some more performers from across the Four Parishes, so please do think about joining in. The Play begins at the Church, and will be performed principally in Beckley High Street on 30 March, starting at 2pm. We don't have to be great actors. We don't have to learn any scripts. We don't have to dress up unless we wish to!

We need to find key characters in the Easter story, as well as others to make up the crowd and bystanders, so there are lots of opportunities to be involved if you don't want a main part. We need help in setting up the scenes – props are all there ready. And of course, it would be great to have people watching on too.

This should be a wonderful way for us to experience Easter this year, so please do think about volunteering to be part of it or come along and watch. All are welcome from across the Four Parishes – and further afield too! If you'd like to take part, please contact Gina Robson on ginarobson5@gmail.com, Susy Jepson on susy.jepson@gmail.com or Anthea on [anthea@fourparishes.org.uk](http://fourparishes.org.uk) as soon as possible. If you don't volunteer we might come asking!!

Easter Garden competition

I thought it would be great to have another Easter Garden Competition. Once again the rules are very loose. The garden can be of any medium. Examples could be a painting, a traditional 'garden' with plants, soil etc, a cake, knitted, crocheted – whatever you would like. Once completed, send me (Anthea) a photo by email with your name. We will display the photos on the Four Parishes website for all to see.

The closing date for entries is Easter Day, 31 March, and the winner will be announced on the following week. There will be a small prize for the winner. The idea is that you have great fun producing the garden, and that the photos will bring joy to everyone.

All ages are eligible, from the youngest to the oldest in the Benefice. Please do spread the word so we have a good number of entries.

Annual Meetings of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meetings

It is that time of year again! The Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM) have to be completed by 31 May this year, and so dates have been set for these. The related Annual Meeting of Parishioners is on the same day, immediately before the APCM.

Here is advanced notice of the meetings:

Beckley:	29 May at 7.30pm in Church
Forest Hill:	14 May at 6pm in Forest Hill Village Hall
Horton-cum-Studley:	10 April at 7.30pm in Church
Stanton St John:	TBC at 7pm Stanton Village Hall

Revisions of Electoral Rolls

Electoral rolls need updating in readiness for the Annual Parochial Church Meetings in the Benefice.

If you are on the current roll of your Church, you do NOT need to complete a new form this year. If your name is not currently on the roll, but you would like to be included on the roll, then you must complete a form. Forms are available in each of the Churches in the Benefice. If you cannot locate them, please do contact the Electoral Roll Officer of the related Church (see details on next page).

To qualify for inclusion on the electoral roll of a Parish Church, you must be living in the Parish, or be a regular worshipper in that Parish. If you have any questions about this, please do contact the Electoral Roll Officer of the related Church (see details below).

After the revision of each of the electoral rolls, an updated copy will be exhibited for inspection at each Church.

Here is the timetable for these reviews:

Beckley:	1 May – 14 May
Forest Hill:	16 – 29 April
Horton-cum-Studley:	13 – 26 March
Stanton St John:	TBC

For further information, please do contact the Electoral Roll Officer of your Parish Church:

Beckley:	Gina Robson (01865 351637)
Forest Hill:	Pat Fraser (01865 875679)
Horton-cum-Studley:	David Slingo (stbarnabaspcchcs@gmail.com or 07850 004700)
Stanton St John:	Sue Baker (01865 351449)

Home Group Study on the Gospel of John

The study group is continuing its look at the Gospel of John on a Monday afternoon at 2.30pm at Studley Farm House, Horton-cum-Studley.

Anyone from around the Four Parishes is welcome to join in. If you are interested in being involved, please contact Annie Payne by email at anniefpayne@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Prayers for Peace

As the war continues in Ukraine, with the awful situation in the Middle East, trouble in the Red Sea and surrounding areas, and as God's peace is not present throughout the world, we continue to pray for peace. We will meet for 15 minutes at 12pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays in March across the Four Parishes as follows:

Beckley	9 and 27
Forest Hill	2 and 23
Horton-cum-Studley	6 and 16
Stanton	13, 20 and 30.

GENERAL

Fund raising for the National Autistic Society

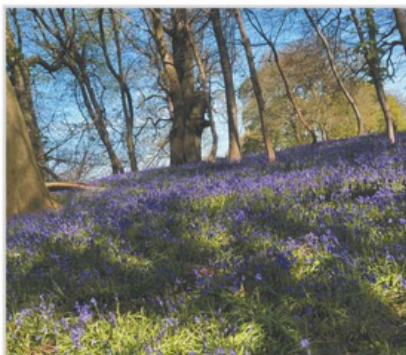
My name is Michela Casaldi and I live with my husband, Jason Haynes, and my 11 year old daughter Isabelle in Main Street in Forest Hill.

I am currently training to take part in the upcoming London Landmark Half Marathon on 7 April (you might have seen me running through the village every now and then). I will be representing team autism, and fund raising for the National Autistic Society (NAS), because I believe in creating a world that is inclusive of everyone regardless of their abilities or disabilities.

You can read more about our story on my JustGiving page https://www.justgiving.com/page/michela-casaldi-1704136928808?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fmichela-casaldi-1704136928808&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share.



The picture shows my daughter and me at last year's "Coloured Walk" that we both took part in (also for NAS).



New Shotover Poetry

We are excited to launch a brand-new collection of poems inspired by Shotover.

With contributions written from the 1620s to the 2020s, the collection brings together 25 poets young and old, from near and far, to share their creative writing about Shotover.

The booklet, complete with full-colour photographs, is now available.

For more information and to place an order, please email Paul at the address below. The booklet is priced at £7, with all profits going to the Shotover Preservation Society



The Power of Place:
Poems Inspired by Shotover

Collected and introduced by
Paul Christopher Walton

Stratagol Publishing
Email: servantofclio@icloud.com



Madness and Deception: Hares, Rabbits and Easter Eggs

by Lyn Ebbs

We expect hares to display seasonal craziness, why else do we describe people as being mad as March hares? But if we want an example of eccentric behaviour, rabbits secretly leaving decorated eggs around at Easter is odder than anything we see hares getting up to. And rabbits or hares have also set a visual riddle that has existed for hundreds of years and spread thousands of miles – see what you make of it.

Our fastest British land mammal, the Brown Hare, relies on its acute senses and running speed (up to 45 mph) to evade predators. The March madness that we associate with hares is a part of their mating behaviour. You can see these normally elusive animals chasing each other across fields or standing on their hind legs apparently engaged in boxing bouts. You might think that the boxers are rival bucks competing for the attention of a doe. However, when a buck has been too persistent in pursuit of a doe, it is she that is boxing to fend him off if she is not yet ready to mate. Brown Hares have been in Britain since the Iron Age, when they were introduced from across the North Sea.



Rabbits arrived with us a little later; there is evidence that they were brought over in the 1st century by the Romans. They are smaller than hares and lack the black tips to their ears. They have brown eyes (Brown Hares have noticeably lighter, amber eyes). They have a more obvious white tail and hop rather than lope. They can be found almost anywhere they can burrow; their ideal habitat being light soil in areas of short grass. They avoid damp conditions which is why you are far more likely to see a hare than a rabbit on Otmoor.



A further difference between hares and rabbits, is their sleeping arrangements, hares don't use burrows; they make a small depression on the ground in long grass, known as a form, to shelter in during the day. Both

rabbits and hares are associated with springtime, fertility and rejuvenation in many religions and cultures. At this time of year, other creatures are making use of similar grass-lined depressions in wet meadows – lapwings. So, when children were sent out at Easter time to look for another symbol



of fertility, the egg, left in grassy nests, they may have startled hares from their forms. And those forms that did contain eggs were possibly really lapwings' nests. The Easter bunny may therefore not be a rabbit at all, or even a hare, it might actually be a deceiving bird. (A group of lapwings is known as a deceit, for their habit of pretending injury when their eggs or chicks are threatened.)

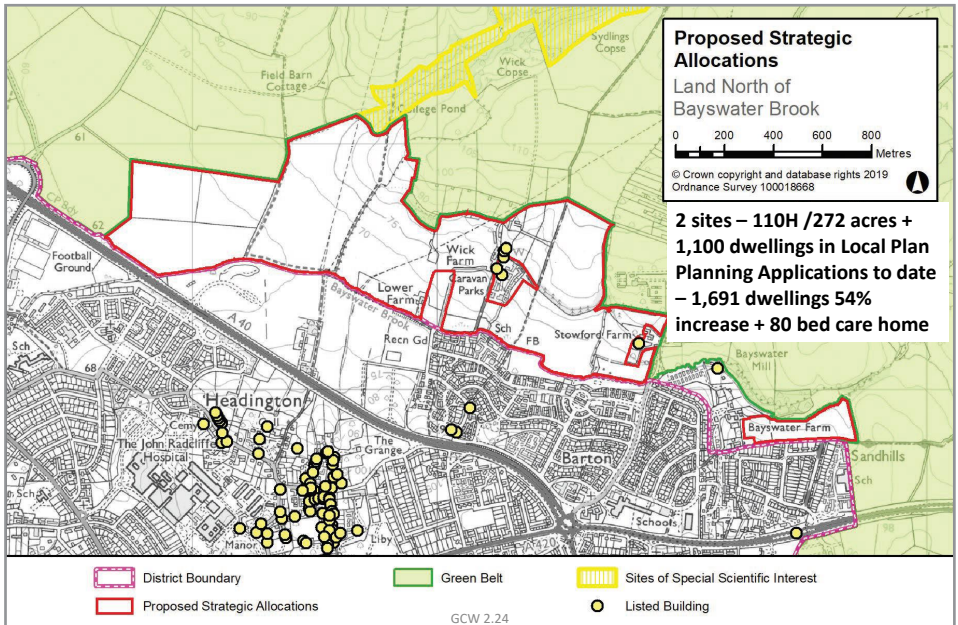
The Easter Bunny tradition is clearly not based on any observed activity of rabbits but, along with hares, they have mystical reputations. Hares have associations with witchcraft – witches were believed to be able to transform themselves into hares. Rabbits are associated with the moon in Chinese culture. Where we see a man in the moon, Chinese legend locates a rabbit there, which is believed to be pounding herbs with a mortar and pestle, creating the elixir of immortality.

One further piece of deception is in an ancient image that is shared by many religions and cultures, from the Far East, across northern Europe, and is even found in Devon. This pictorial riddle shows three hares interlocked in a circle. If you look at a single animal, as you would expect, it has a pair of ears. But look at the group as a whole, and they have just three ears between them. In Devon churches they are known as Tinnners' Rabbits and are found in tin-mining areas. In other images they look much more hare-like. The explanations of the symbol are many and varied but I think it ties in with the mystery and deception associated with these animals.



Lyn Ebbs has lived in Stanton St John for 35 years and has been volunteering at the RSPB Otmoor Reserve at Otmoor Lane, Beckley, since 2009.

LnBB 'Land North of Bayswater Brook': Update



A new planning application has been submitted by Cillarda Group (Headington) Ltd, for the other part of the Land north of Bayswater Brook (LnBB) site – Bayswater Farm. Please see map above. The application is for 121 dwelling and an 80-bed care home. This brings the total for the site to 1,691 dwellings + 80 bed care home. This is a 54% increase to the Local Plan 1,100 dwelling allocation. This increase will impact roads, congestion, flooding, the environment and local facilities and also destroy more former Green Belt countryside.

The developers of the larger part of the site – Christ Church and Dorchester Residential Management have recently threatened SODC with legal action for non-determination of their planning applications. This is surprising as the developers continue to add amendments to their planning applications and have not addressed the very serious objections made by the statutory consultees such as the Environment Agency – objecting to development in flood zones 2 and 3, the County Council on roads, English Nature and BBOWT on the SSSI. The threat of litigation has since been withdrawn. Dates for the SODC Planning committee meetings to consider the applications cannot be agreed until the statutory consultees are satisfied.

Our concerns remain the same – SSSI, wildlife and the environment; flooding; health of the local residents and roads. The construction phasing plans submitted show development starting next to the crematorium and between Wick Farm and the Bayswater Road. New access roads will be created to the Bayswater Road x 2, A40 northern ring road and Elsfield Road.

The proposed transport infrastructure changes will affect local residents severely. The Bayswater Road and all its junctions will be narrowed and the mini-roundabout removed. This is to allow a 2-way cycle path and pavement to be constructed beside the road. Two new access roads to LnBB will be traffic light controlled, to give them priority. The Headington roundabout will have the eastern and northern junctions increased to 4 lanes, although one of the lanes on the northern junction will be a bus lane. The Bayswater Road junction with the roundabout will have traffic lights. The capacity of the roundabout will not be increased. The western access from the Elsfield Road will reconfigure the junction with the Elsfield and Woodeaton Roads and the ring road. This will be hugely disruptive to all.

Here is a link to a presentation showing more details - <https://www.beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk/?q=node/1425>

Ginette Camps-Walsh, Beckley



Art ON THE hill

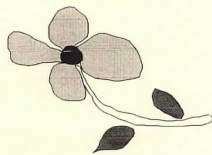
**POP-UP ART FAIR
BRILL SCHOOL
HP18 9RY**

**SATURDAY
23RD MARCH
10AM – 5PM**

**SUNDAY
24TH MARCH
10AM – 4PM**

WWW.ARTONTHEHILL.ORG

The poster features six small art pieces with captions: Rupert Aske (landscape), Lizzie Wheeler (lemons), Anna Bagnell (flowers), Laura Bardell (beach), and Ballantyne and Read (sculpture).



Horton-cum-Studley Gardening Club

Affiliated to the RHS

Full Programme of Events 2024

Talks	Visits
<i>Feb 20: A Potted History of Gardening</i>	<i>May 28: Upton Wold GL56 9TR</i>
<i>Mar 19: Home Composting</i>	<i>June evening: Bernwood Meadow OX33 1BJ</i>
<i>Apr 16: Sculpture in the Garden</i>	<i>July 25: Kingsbridge Farm MK18 2EJ</i>
<i>Oct 15: Asthall Manor's Kitchen Garden</i>	<i>Aug 15: Members Summer Social:</i>
<i>Nov 19: Snowdrops</i>	<i>Nethercraft House OX33 1AP</i>

The HcS Gardening Club invites you to join us for our next meeting!

Tuesday, 19th MARCH 7.30pm

at

The Millennium Hall, Horton-cum-Studley, OX33 1AE

Talk: *Home Composting and Vermiculture* Speaker: **Jo Milton**

Plant Sale: Always popular. £3 for small plants and £5 for trees and shrubs
Tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided.

Club Cards will be available at the meeting. These will entitle members to discounts, for example the Sutton Seed Catalogue offers 50% discount.

Subscription £15

Guest Charge £7.50

Queries: lynsenior@hotmail.com

BECKLEY

Beckley Church

Details of all church services and general church news can be found on pages 4 - 12. Any changes to the published schedule of services will be on our website www.fourparishes.org.uk.

Beckley plans to host a Passion Play once more this year on Saturday 30 March. This is being led by Beckley Church which is keen for this to be a Four Parishes event, so participants are being sought from across the Four Parishes. See page 10 for more information, and please do think about taking part, or coming along to watch. It should be a powerful experience.

Beckley & Stowood Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Monday 11 March at 7pm in Beckley Village Hall**. Any changes to the published meeting dates will be on the website www.beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk.

The Clerk's email address is clerk@beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk if you would like to get in touch with the Parish Council and Parish Council information can be found on the website www.beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk.

For information on Beckley Village Hall please see www.beckleyvillagehall.org and to enquire about a booking please contact the Booking Secretary, Mel Green, at booking@beckleyvillagehall.org.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – BECKLEY OPEN DAY, SUNDAY 23 JUNE

As always, the gardens will be the main highlight, but as usual there will also be teas, an Art show, a plant sale, and various stalls and other attractions.

If you would be willing to have your garden open, or would like to help in any way, please contact Gina or Susy. The Open Day is always a wonderful occasion that brings the village together! All profits go towards the upkeep of our beautiful church

Gina Robson ginarobson5@gmail.com tel 01865 351637

Susy Jepson susy.jepson@gmail.com tel 07920 758484

Beckley and Area Community Benefit Society Ltd

More than a Pub programme <https://bacbs.org/events>

BACBS continues its popular events at our community-owned pub The Abingdon Arms, Beckley, to which all are welcome. Do come, enjoy, and support your local pub.

Pub quiz

1st Wednesday of every month: the next quiz will be on **6 March at 7.30pm** – with pizza! Table bookings advisable - or you can just turn up and join an existing team. Thanks to The Abingdon Arms, there's a free round of drinks for the winning team.

Community walks

Next walk will be **17 March, 2pm start**.

Sunday evening talks

Last Sunday of the month, 6.30pm in the pub. Talks are usually from local experts and cover a wide range of topics. Do join us in the pub for a drink and a stimulating evening! If you absolutely can't make it and would like to listen to a recording or would like more information, email info@bacbs.org or go to bacbs.org/events.

On **Sunday 24 March** (exceptionally not the last Sunday of the month to avoid Easter Sunday), **Susan Canney of Horton-cum-Studley** and Director of the Mali elephant project will give us an update on her work on conservation of elephants in West Africa.

And following our highly successful Christmas crafts session, there will be:

Easter Crafts



Free! For both adults and children.

Prosecco, hot chocolate, cake and mini-pizzas
available to buy

Children must be accompanied by an adult

3.30 – 5.30 pm, Friday 22 March, at The Abingdon Arms



BACBS Good Neighbour Scheme

To request a lift, ring either 07514 791910 (if no answer, leave a message) or email BACBSgoodneighbour@gmail.com.

FOREST HILL

News from St Nicolas

Details of all church services and general church news can be found on pages 4 - 12. Any changes to the published schedule of services will be on our website www.fourparishes.org.uk.

Music at St Nicolas

Naomi Hinks (alto) and Julia Stutfield (soprano) perform Pergolesi's hauntingly beautiful 'Stabat Mater' on **Sunday 24 March at 7pm** with Joe Burgess accompanying on the organ. Entry to the concert is free but there will be an opportunity to make a voluntary donation towards the upkeep of St Nicolas Church.

Save the Dates!

The dates for Cream Teas and Summer Music at St Nicolas in 2024 are:

Saturday 22 June

Sunday 28 July

Sunday 25 August

Saturday 21 September

Local musicians of all ages and abilities (including children) are invited to perform in the garden during the afternoon or to take part in an early evening concert in the church. Please contact Julia Stutfield (07766 103427 or julia.stutfield@gmail.com) for more information. Music in a variety of styles is welcome, especially jazz, folk and classical.

Afternoon Tea at Forest Hill Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee invites residents of Forest Hill to meet up over afternoon tea at the village hall on **Saturday 20 April from 3 to 5pm**. More details in the April magazine.

Forest Hill Village Fete

Plans are under way for a Village Fete (probably more of a street party) on **Saturday 6 July**. Please save the date and start thinking about how you might contribute: bake a cake, run a stall, devise an entertainment. Bring your ideas to the afternoon tea on 20 April and let's make it a fun day for the whole village.



Jazz on the Hill at Forest Hill Village Hall Tuesday 12 March, 7.30-9.30pm



Join Julie, Will and their musician friends to celebrate jazz with plenty of opportunity for instrumentalists and vocalists to make music with a house band, and to take the seat in the rhythm section as well if wished. Or just come to listen and soak up the atmosphere! All welcome. No need to book, just turn up on the night.

Soft drinks available, bring your own alcohol if desired. Suggested donation by card or cash £5. Parking available in the village streets. Wheelchair accessible.

Daffodil Day, Sunday 17 March

'Daffodil Day', in the private gardens of Shotover House, has been the main annual fundraising event for St Nicolas Church for over 20 years. In 2022 St Nicolas invited The Maple Tree children's centre charity in Wheatley to run it as a joint venture and this year, with the support of the Shotover Trust who own and manage the house and grounds at Shotover, they will be doing it again on **Sunday 17 March from 2 - 4.30pm**.



Advance tickets are available at <https://www.stnicolasforesthill.org/>. As in 2023, free off-site car parking will be available at local schools and the routes for walking or cycling will be clearly signposted. Advance booking is particularly recommended if you are hoping to park on site, as priority will be given to 'Blue Badge' holders or those with limited mobility. **If you have difficulty booking online, or for any other questions, contact Julia Stutfield (details below).**

We still need a few more volunteers to direct traffic and pedestrians, collect tickets, serve teas, coffees and cakes, and to bake goodies in advance, if you are unavailable on the day. If you would would like to help out in any way please contact Julia Stutfield (07766 103427 or julia.stutfield@gmail.com).

'Pop Up Coffee Shop' in Forest Hill Village Hall

Friday 22 March, 10.30am -12.30pm

Tea, coffee and cake
All profits to local charities

More information from Julia Stutfield
07766 103427 or julia.stutfield@gmail.com



The Maple Tree at Forest Hill, Thursdays 11am-12pm

The Thursday morning 'stay and play' sessions in Forest Hill Village Hall are a wonderful way for parents, grandparents and carers of small children to meet and chat in a friendly and supportive environment. Through our affiliation with The Maple Tree Children's Centre in Wheatley, we also have access to all sorts of support and advice.

If you have a new baby or are expecting one soon, why not drop in to introduce yourself to us or get in touch with Julia Stutfield 07766 103427 or julia.stutfield@gmail.com.

Forest Hill Village Hall



Do you realise that Forest Hill Village Hall is available for hire at a very reasonable rate?

The pictures were taken at two of the regular events that occur there - the baby and toddler 'stay and play' sessions described above, and the Jazz Night which happens on the second Tuesday of every month. Hire includes use of the kitchen (with fridge, oven, microwave, urn and a selection of crockery and cutlery) as well as several tables and plenty of chairs.



For very young children's parties, there is also an option to use the toys pictured above in return for a small donation.

Email Dawn Dunbar on dunbardawn@ymail.com for more information.

Forest Hill with Shotover Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Thursday 25 April at 7pm in Forest Hill Village Hall**. This will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the monthly meeting. Dates of future meetings can be found on the Forest Hill website www.parish-council.com/foresthillwithshotover and on the Village Hall noticeboard. Current agendas and minutes are posted on the noticeboard outside the Village Hall. Archived agendas and minutes can be found on the website.

Have your say on the Joint Local Plan under consultation: South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse have issued their Joint “Preferred options” consultation on the Local Plan 2041. It is live to comment on until Monday 26 February 2024. If you have a few minutes, you could email your views to: haveyoursay@southandvale.gov.uk or send in a letter to Freepost SOUTH AND VALE CONSULTATIONS.

Mickle Way and parking on the white lines - reminder to residents that the junctions are to remain clear at all times, as per the Highway Code, so residents can enter and leave the junctions safely.

You can contact the Clerk by email at theclerk@foresthillwithshotover-pc.org.uk or telephone 0844 884 3328, between 9am and 5pm.

Forest Hill Litter Pick 2024: Join us in making a positive impact on our beloved village!

Let's come together on:

**Saturday 16 March from 2pm to 4pm
at Forest Hill Village Hall**



Gear up with a positive spirit as we provide all the essentials: picks, bin bags, high-visibility vests, and light refreshments.

Please bring along your sturdy gloves.

Every small action counts! Be a part of the change and let's keep Forest Hill tidy, vibrant, and full of community pride. See you there!

No registration required. For more information contact Susann: susanfh@gmx.net

HORTON-cum-STUDLEY

News from St Barnabas

Details of all church services and general church news can be found on pages 4 - 12. Any changes to the published schedule of services will be on our website www.fourparishes.org.uk.



St Barnabas was recognised as an Animal Friendly church in early 2023 and we continue to include consideration and compassion for animals in all we do. But we were surprised and happy to hear recently that we have been chosen as joint winners of the Animal Friendly Church 2023 by the Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals.



ASWA work to promote animal welfare, on the basis that care for all God's creatures is a non-negotiable part of our faith. We received a hamper of Fairtrade goodies and a brass plaque.

Pop-up Pub and Social in St Barnabas, Friday 1 March

Feedback from a promising trial in November last year encouraged the idea of a monthly 'Pop-up' pub as an opportunity for villagers to get together. Our launch on 2 February welcomed some 60 enthusiastic residents. The 'Dog & Collar' (aptly named by Sally Bassett!) will now be open from **6-8.30pm on the first Friday of each month**. All are welcome. Future opening hours for your diary are **Friday 5 April**.

Coffee and Chat at St Barnabas, Saturday 9 March

Everyone is welcome to pop in **between 10am and 12pm** to spend some time with neighbours. There is no charge but donations are welcome. Dogs are welcome too!

'Friends of St Barnabas' talk

Over 60 people from the Four Parishes gathered on 4 February to hear an entertaining and hugely informative talk by Professor Peter Heather.

St Barnabas Church PCC would like to take this opportunity to thank all its regular workers and supporters, its 'Friends', for helping to keep the church open. If you would like to find out more, please contact lisamynheer@gmail.com or other member of the Parochial Church Council.

Helen Paige (née Gill) 1932 – 2023



Helen was one of four children born to Kate and Alfred Gill in Beckley, East Sussex. She attended the village school and then went to Rye Grammar School in 1943. This was during the Second World War and the entire school had been relocated to Bedford; consequently Helen started her secondary education away from home, as an evacuee. The school moved back to Rye in 1944, and Helen sat School Certificate exams in 1948 and Higher School Certificate in 1950.

After leaving school Helen moved to London where she started working for the Invalid Children's Aid Association. She lived in a hostel in Chelsea, attending Chelsea Methodist Church and enjoying the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall. She worked in London until 1953 when she married Ted Paige, who she knew from childhood days. They lived in Reading while Ted completed postgraduate research at the University. In 1955 they moved to Malvern, where Ted took a post with the Radar Research Establishment.

Helen and Ted lived in Malvern for 22 years during which time their four children - two girls and two boys - were born. In 1977 the family moved to Horton-cum-Studley when Ted took up the post of Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Oxford. During this period, Helen completed her training as a Local Preacher, becoming fully accredited in 1980. She retired as a lay worker in 2000, but continued to be involved with church groups and pastoral care.

After Ted died in 2004, Helen remained in Horton-cum-Studley where she continued to be an active member of the community and a busy hostess.

Helen enjoyed music in all of its forms, especially opera. Every January, when the rest of the world were booking their summer holidays, Helen was making plans for the upcoming Glyndebourne season. She was also an enthusiastic supporter of the England cricket team. She and Ted shared a common interest in the natural world and this would shape their holiday destinations and mid-week day trips; Helen always with a pair of binoculars dangling around her neck.

Helen lived independently until she was admitted to John Radcliffe Hospital, where, after a short illness, she sadly died on 27 November 2023, aged 91.

Sadie Paige

Horton-cum-Studley Parish Council News

The Parish Council has confirmed that, given continuing pressure on the cost of living for residents, the Parish Precept will not be increased this year and it will be £9,455 for the 2024/25 fiscal year, changed only to reflect the latest population data. The PC will continue to manage this budget carefully.

The **Village Spring Clean will take place over the week-end of 20-21 April**, later than normal to avoid the Easter holiday period. **Save the date!** More details next month.

Direct approaches to Barr Build from residents and support from the Millennium Hall Committee has resulted in some reduction in parking issues in Church Lane with limited use of the MVH by contractor vehicles. Barr Build has also confirmed that any damage to verges will be repaired on completion of the works. By the time this is published, the PC will have met with representatives from OCC and SSE to discuss a temporary road closure notice due to take place in March.

The PC would like to remind everyone that after the cottages on Ragnalls Lane, the lane becomes a Restricted Byway, and motor vehicles (of any kind) cannot be used or parked there unless it is for the purposes of access to a property or land with permission of the owner.

Parish Council meetings, open to all in the village, are normally held on the second Thursday of the month, the **next meeting being on Thursday 14 March, 7.30pm in the Millennium Village Hall.**

David Slingo: Chair

Horton-cum-Studley Village Playground Appeal

We plan a **family friendly chilli night, games and quiz in the village hall on Saturday 27 April.** More information soon.

Contact playgroundsubcommittee@gmail.com if you'd like to make a donation to the charity or to offer to make a chilli or pudding on the day.

Horton-cum-Studley Gardening Club

See page 18 for our exciting programme of events in 2024. **Our next talk is on 'Home Composting' on Tuesday 19 March at 7.30pm in the Millennium Hall.**

Millennium Village Hall

To assist with current Church Lane parking issues, Barr Group contractor vehicles can use the lower hardstanding at the Hall during weekdays -this area can take up to 8 vehicles and includes a generous offer of a donation to our playground fund.

After many (many!) years valued contribution to the smooth running of the Hall including its internal cleanliness and consumables stock, Barbara Jewell will retire from the Hall Committee in June. This is an opportunity for residents to fill this vacancy – chat to Barbara or myself for more information.

Other contact details:

Treasurer – treasurerhcsmvh@gmail.com

Bookings – hcs hallbookings@gmail.com

Stuart MacFarlane

Potato, Sunflower, and Pumpkin Competition 2024

What would you like to grow this year?

Potatoes? Following the success of last year’s weigh-in, the “Spud-in-a-Bucket” Competition is back. Can anyone beat Rachel Hawes huge crop! From one single potato grown in one 12-litre bucket she produced 2.65kg of potatoes.

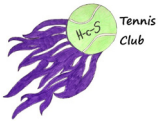
Sunflowers? We had a great display last October and Alila Tribble won with a super 256cm plant.

Pumpkin? Pete Saunders grew a 45kg whopper last year, an impressive entry but short of the 64kg pumpkin grown by Richard Hawes in 2016.

Collect your seed potato(s) from April. Pumpkin and sunflower plants will be available late May/early June. Plants will be left outside 3 Mill Lane. Why not try all 3 this year?

If you would like the full potato competition instructions, would like to choose your spud, or have any questions please contact Cathy Jenkins: 07941 245726.

Do you want to live longer? – Take up Tennis



Did you know that people practicing tennis have been found to increase their life expectancy by as much as nearly 10 years?

Tennis is the Best Over a period of 25 years, from the early 1990s to 2017, researchers from the Copenhagen City Heart Study looked into the link between practicing different sports and overall life expectancy. Tennis came out well ahead of other sports with increased life expectancy of 9.7 years. Badminton was in second place with 6.2 years and football was 4.7 years.

Interestingly, the more social sports ranked higher in the study than the more individual ones, suggesting that the benefit is not only in the physical activity but possibly also in the social aspect. It is mightily difficult to play tennis with yourself!

Should you like to take a stab at tennis, there are plenty of opportunities in and around Oxford. Check Tennis Oxfordshire's webpage for options. But also, you don't need to go very far. The next season for **Horton-cum-Studley Tennis Club starts on 1 April, offering 1-year memberships for children, adults, and families with some of the lowest fees in the county.**

Over the past year, including during winter, the club has kept active with lots of coaching happening thanks to Christina Russell and our head coach, Bart Wisniewski, and his team. Anyone from 6 to 106 years old has been able to find a coaching offer. We will continue to strive to offer coaching opportunities to address most needs.

In the coming season, we will start doing "pop-up club hours" where members can come over to the courts and meet others for a fun game of tennis. Since these are driven by volunteers and subject to availability, they will be published through email to members, in WhatsApp groups and through our Facebook page.

To learn more about Horton-cum-Studley Tennis Club:

website: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HortonCumStudleyTennisClubOxford>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/hscctennisclub>

...and to learn more about the Copenhagen City Heart Study: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30193744/>

STANTON ST JOHN

Stanton Church

Details of all church services and general church news can be found on pages 4 - 12. Any changes to the published schedule of services will be on our website www.fourparishes.org.uk.

Monthly Coffee Mornings in Stanton Village Hall

Come for tea, coffee and cake on **Wednesday 6 March and Monday 22 April, 10.30am-12pm**. Everyone is welcome. For further details, please contact Sue Baker 01865 351449.

How our village church can thrive

In the middle of our lovely village stands a glorious Grade 1 listed building built nearly a thousand years ago. Many of you pass it every day on your way to work, on a bus or bike, in a car, walking your dog, going to the village shop or visiting your village neighbours. This building, our church, built hundreds of years ago is the centre of this village and provides a quiet contemplative space in the middle of our busy lives.

We would like to invite you as a villager to join those of us responsible for maintaining this building and its grounds (the PCC) to talk about how we all might preserve the building and ensure its survival in years to come for future generations. We want to hear ideas from across the village community about how this might happen.

Please join us on Saturday 2 March, 10.30-12pm in Stanton Village Hall. Tea, coffee, and delicious cakes should help our creative juices flow and aid the conversation. Let us know if you can come, by email at carla.stanley@rectoryfarmpyo.co.uk, so we ensure there are enough cakes for everyone!

Stanton St John Spring Litter pick

Stanton St John Spring Litter pick is on Saturday 23 March.



this worthwhile activity.

We will meet up at 2pm in the Village Hall car park. All are welcome, including parents and their children. SODC is providing yellow vests, picker tools and bin bags. Please bring your own gardening gloves with you and wear suitable shoes or boots. Please kindly support

Fariba Battye

Stanton St John Parish Council

All future parish council meeting dates as well as agendas, minutes and other governance documentation can be viewed on the parish council website <https://stantonstjohnparishcouncil.gov.uk>

The **Annual Parish Meeting is on Monday 22 April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**. Please do save the date and come along to hear what the parish council has been involved in over the past year and the local charities and organisations throughout the village. The parish council would also like to hear your views on what facilities and services you would like to see in the village. Light refreshments will be available.

A second public **Neighbourhood Planning Meeting will be held on Friday 15 March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**. This is to move forward with the Stanton St John Neighbourhood Plan. Note that all are welcome as it will be something that the whole village can contribute to if they are happy to do so. Please do save the date and help create a vision for the future of your village.

Anita James

Clerk & RFO to Stanton St John Parish Council

CHANGE OF VENUE DUE TO NUMBERS

GROVE AUDITORIUM, MAGDALEN COLLEGE



Christopher John Kent Bulstrode

The Bulstrode and Hunt families very much hope you will be able to join them for a Celebration of Chris's life to be held at The Grove Auditorium, Magdalen College Oxford on 13 April 2024, 2-4pm. This is an Open Door event, and everyone is very welcome.

Extensive parking available on Longwall Street alongside Magdalen College, and in St Clements Car Park just over the Bridge (150m), and Union Street Car Park up Cowley Road. (250m) Park and Ride from Thornhill stops at Queens Lane, 100m from College.

For further information please contact victoria.hunt@me.com

Jamie Brown 1945 - 2024

Jamie Brown has left us now, but we remember him fondly as part of the Four Parishes community. He moved to Stanton St John late in his career as a writer and film producer.



Jamie was a writer and storyteller. While working on his degree in English Literature in Canada, he edited his university's weekly newspaper. Jamie wrote plays and novels, and was introduced to the great and the good at the Middlebury Bread Loaf Writers' Conference in the United States. Later, the National Film Board of Canada coaxed him to come to them as an expert in script writing. He then went on to found one of Canada's biggest film and television production companies, producing projects in both French and English. Over the years, he published five novels and produced over forty feature films. His final film just wrapped this month in London at the iconic Abbey Road Studios.

Jamie also had a life-long passion for motor racing cars. He plotted his yearly calendar around motoring events. His vast knowledge of cars spanned the eras, but he had an especially keen interest in pre-war racing cars. Over the years he owned many interesting cars and motorcycles. Jamie travelled extensively with his career and always looked out for interesting motors. Living in England gave him occasion to enjoy its rich history of motor racing, motor cars and famous motor racing circuits.

Jamie grew up in a family of writers, politicians, ministers and journalists in Canada. He was born to James E. Brown (a local MP and later judge) and Elizabeth Eedy in Brantford, Ontario. His two sisters – Cathleen Morrison and Sarah Brown – have both visited and enjoyed Stanton St John. Jamie's great, great maternal grandfather was a newspaper publisher, his paternal grandparents were church ministers, doctors and farmers.

Jamie married his wife, Lorna, in 1972. Together, they raised their children in Montreal and moved to the UK in the 1990s. They lived for many years in London, before moving to Los Angeles and then on to Stanton St John. Their children, Jean-Pierre, Alexandre (Alex) and Elizabeth have visited the parish many times over the years. Elizabeth now lives in Oxford where she is raising her three children, Willow, Rudy and Frankie. Jean-Pierre's son, Amiel, is a men's velodrome medallist in Canada and part of the Canadian

National Cycling team.

Having moved to Stanton St John in 2013, Jamie loved village life. Many will remember him walking round the village three times a day with his beloved dogs, and locking and unlocking the church. Working from his home office over the years necessitated routine walks “to clear the mind”. It also gave him a chance to stop and chat with his neighbours.

Shortly after moving here, Jamie quickly became involved in the village church. His Christian upbringing is reflected in his regard for faithful stewardship. He regularly attended church and became a member of the PCC. He was keen to fundraise for church – he wanted the church to be well-used and the fabric to be preserved so it would be there to be enjoyed for the next 900 years.

Jamie was genuinely interested in building community and was instrumental in setting up a village film club five years ago. The first film we showed was one of Jamie’s ‘Shadows in the Sun’ and he talked about it at the screening. The film club continues to thrive and attracts villagers from the four parishes at its regular screenings.

Jamie has left us with wonderful memories of his kindness, his zest for life and his dedication to pursuing acts of service to make life better for those around him. His many friends and colleagues remember him as an exacting leader, a creative thinker and a bon vivant.

STANTON HOUSE

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Web: www.stantonhouse.org.uk

Film Night in Stanton St John Village Hall

Saturday 23 March 7.45pm

The Stanton St John Film Club presents the successful 2022 Rom Com:

What's Love Got to Do with It



In London, an award-winning film-maker documents her best friend's journey into an assisted marriage in line with his family's Pakistani heritage. In the process, she challenges her own attitude towards relationships.

The film will start at 7.45pm but doors will be open at 7pm. Before the film, delicious cakes and drinks are available whilst the bar will serve wines and "Love Potion" cocktails.

Since only 60 seats are available in the Village Hall, please reserve your seats asap for the screenings via Sue Baker (susanjbaker24@gmail.com) or in the Village Shop. Tickets at £5 (cash only) will be sold at the door. Any profits raised will be used to enhance the Village Hall for future screenings.

Stanton St John WI

Stanton St John WI hold their Annual Meeting every March, to decide who should be on the committee and to vote for a new President. This year the date falls on **Tuesday 12 March and we will meet at 7.30pm in the village hall**. Proceedings are to be overseen by our new Advisor, Beryl Mann, and we plan to have a quiz as well as a chance to socialise.

After an excellent talk in February on 'Fraud and Scams' which affect us locally as well as nationally, I am certain that the topic will be discussed again. We look forward to seeing members for an important and enjoyable meeting.

For anyone who is interested in our varied activities and talks, please contact stantonstjohnwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk.



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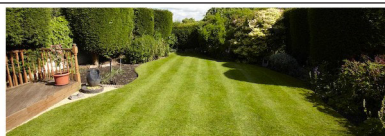
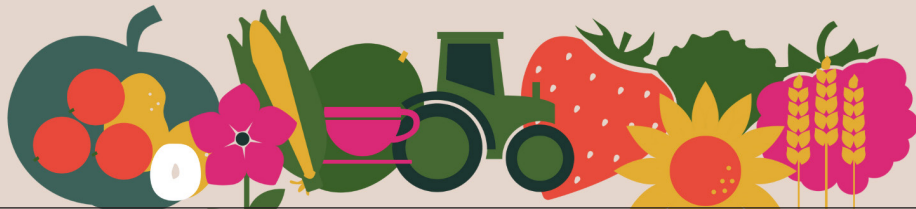
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Daffodil Day

A rare opportunity to wander round the private gardens of Shotover House

Sunday 17 March 2024, 2pm - 4.30pm

Enjoy the extensive displays of daffodils and other spring bulbs in return for a small entrance fee in aid of local charities.

Tea/coffee and home-made cake served all afternoon.



**Purchase tickets in advance at www.stnicolasforesthill.org
(advance booking strongly recommended)**

Cars £15 ~ Pedestrians/Cyclists* £3

Children under 12 admitted free ~ Dogs welcome (on leads please)

***Please note: cycling is not permitted within the gardens**