

The Four Parishes News Magazine

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



Delivering the 'Greater Oxford' petition to No 10 Downing Street

May 2026

The editor writes

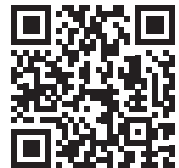


Last month I started to write about the process that is gone through to create this magazine every month. This month I thought I would share a bit more with you about the editorial process.

One of the big challenges for me, as editor, is to ensure that none of the content that is sent to me gets overlooked. When I took over from John Baker in 2018, one of the first things I did was to set up an email account (4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com) specifically for the magazine. Incoming emails are flagged with a marker for the relevant month and filed away as they are dealt with. Any attachments (Word documents, PDFs, photos) are also filed on the related Google Drive. At the point when I think the magazine is nearly finished, I check through the incoming emails again to make sure that everything has been reviewed. Occasionally people send content to my personal email, but I always discourage this as much as possible. I do still miss things: I had to apologise profusely to a contributor only a couple of months ago, but fortunately the material was not time-critical and I was able to put in the next issue.

Next month I will try to say a bit more about how we make editorial decisions.

Don't forget that you can use the QR code to read this magazine on your phone or tablet when you can no longer find the paper copy. Or simply type fourparishes.org.uk/magazine into your web browser.



Julia

Our cover photo

is of some local MPs and councillors delivering a petition to 10 Downing Street against becoming part of Greater Oxford Unitary Authority (see pages 12 - 13)

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

The Four Parishes News Magazine

LIST OF CONTENTS	
Church Services in the Four Parishes	Page 5
Letter from Anthea	Pages 6 - 7
Church Matters	Pages 8 - 11
General Articles and Community Information	Pages 12 - 18
Village pages: Beckley	Pages 19 - 21
Village pages: Forest Hill	Pages 22 - 24
Village pages: Horton-cum-Studley	Pages 25 - 29
Village pages: Stanton St John	Pages 30 - 33
Classified	Pages 34 - 39

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

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

The closing date for the June 2026 issue is 15 May 2026

**To advertise in the magazine please email [JULIA
adverts.4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:JULIA.adverts.4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com)**

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

Beckley

Judith Rawlinson

Email: judithrawlinson@hotmail.co.uk

Forest Hill

Stephanie Kitchen Tel: 07966 045144

Email: stephanie.kitchen@btopenworld.com

Horton-cum-Studley

Carol Welch

Tel: 01865 358122

Email: carol_welch20@hotmail.com

Stanton St John

Sue Baker

Tel: 01865 351449

Email: susanjbaker24@gmail.com

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.

Ministry Team

Vicar

Reverend Anthea Beresford

anthea@fourparishes.org.uk

Tel: 01865 351839 Mob: 07876 527514

Associate Priests

Reverend Hugh Lee

hugh.lee@btinternet.com

Tel: 01865 316245

Reverend Stephanie Bullock

stephaniebullock9@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Ministers

Betty Dye

betty.dye10@gmail.com

Canon Prof. Nicholas Orme

n.i.orme@exeter.ac.uk

Churchwardens

Beckley

Vacant at present

Forest Hill

Jane Walker

Tel: 01865 872399

lyttleton@btinternet.com

Pat Fraser

Tel: 01865 875679

triciaann49@gmail.com

Horton-cum-Studley

Andrew Payne

Tel: 01865 351018

stbarnabas.churchwardenpayne@gmail.com

Julia Slingo

Tel: 07766 659524

stbarnabas.churchwardenslingo@gmail.com

Stanton St John

Carla Stanley

Tel: 07967 018887

churchwardenststj@gmail.com

The Four Parishes News Magazine has 10 issues per year and is distributed free of charge to approximately 850 addresses in Beckley, Forest Hill, Horton-cum-Studley and Stanton St John. It is funded by advertising revenue, which is used to cover the printing costs. We are dependent on volunteers to assemble the content, book and invoice the advertisers, compile and edit the magazine, collect it from the printers and distribute it throughout the four parishes.

Editor: Julia Stutfield

Layout Designer: Catherine Matthews

Assistant Editors: Jonathan Barker, Anthea Beresford

Church Services in the Four Parishes, May 2026

	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 May <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i>	11am Morning Prayer	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Prayer	11am Morning Prayer
	4pm Four Parishes Children's Church at Forest Hill			
	6pm Four Parishes Church Without Walls at Stanton St John Village Hall			
10 May <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i>		9.30am Morning Prayer	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion
	6pm Four Parishes Choral Evensong at Forest Hill			
14 May <i>Ascension Day</i>	7am Four Parishes Service of Holy Communion at Studley Farm House, Brill Road, Horton-cum-Studley OX33 1BP			
17 May <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i> <i>Sunday after Ascension Day</i>	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion		11am Morning Prayer
	6pm Four Parishes Iona Service at Beckley			
24 May <i>Pentecost</i>	10am Four Parishes Service of Holy Communion at Beckley			
	4pm Four Parishes Family Church does Forest Church at Bernwood Forest, Horton-cum-Studley			
	6pm Four Parishes Taizé Service on Zoom			
31 May <i>Trinity 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 are not on the church mailing list and would like an invitation to a Zoom service or a regular reminder of weekly services, please email Anthea: anthea@fourparishes.org.uk.

A letter from Anthea

Hi everyone,



Today has been a frustrating day with my computer! And why is it that these days happen when you are under pressure to get things done and are completely reliant on the technology to make this possible.

The day started with my screens going completely black with about two minutes to go before I should be opening the Zoom meeting for us to do Morning Prayer. Everything was working fine, meeting set up, email invitation sent, then suddenly nothing. And nothing I tried sorted it out, including the obvious reboot – several times! Eventually I kicked it back into action – not literally I must add – before I resorted to throwing the computer out of the window. I was only eight minutes late, and my faithful congregation were all patiently waiting to be let in to the meeting. It was good to have the service to calm me after the earlier frustrations, and to be honest, stress.

A little later I was busily finalising service sheets that I needed to send off for printing, and I got an urgent email requiring me to scan some documents and send them off. Well, you have guessed it – next the scanner decided it would not work – quite a lot later I manage to instal a new APP that had mysteriously disappeared, and I was off again.

Why is it that these things happen when we are already under pressure,



and need everything to run smoothly? I will not bore you with other stuff that has happened today, but it has not been easy. What I do want to share though, is how incredibly grateful I was to then get out for a walk with Bertie. I wonder if you have such an outlet when

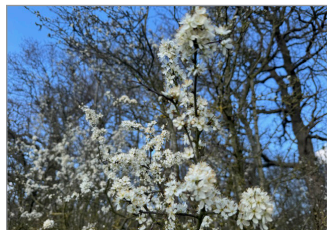
pressures are getting on top of you. The sun was still shining although the wind was quite brisk – but that is what I needed – the cobwebs blown away, the fresh breeze in my face, and some time and space to reflect, to pray, and to be reminded how incredibly fortunate I am to have the beautiful countryside on my doorstep, a loyal companion to spend time with,



and a God who wants to listen, and who has brought me to this special place to live and to serve.

I came back to my desk with the same things still to get done, but refreshed and calmer to keep going.

As we continue our journey following the highs, lows and highs of Holy Week and Easter, reminding ourselves and continuing to celebrate

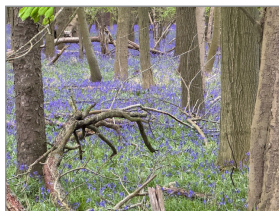
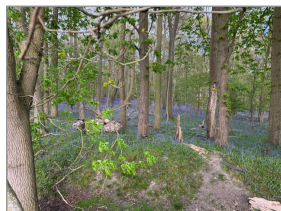


that Christ is risen, along with the hope that brings, we have a packed month of festivals in the Church calendar, and we look forward to celebrating Ascension Day, Pentecost and Trinity. Ascension Day is on 14 May, and we celebrate with an early morning service. For more information see page 8. In my experience, it has always been worth the early start, and we hope once more for good weather! We will be celebrating Pentecost in Beckley Church for our monthly Four Parishes service on 24 May, and Trinity Sunday in each of our churches on 31 May. I hope you will join us for these joyful celebrations.

As always, May gifts us with two Bank Holidays which are often opportunities to meet up with family and friends since we have that extra day for two weekends. I appreciate some will still have to work, and some may not be able to meet up with loved ones, but hopefully we can all do something a little different and have a restful and enjoyable time. Perhaps these could be times when you are able to set time aside to relax, reflect and recharge. Whatever you do, I hope you have a blessed time.

And as ever, 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

Church opening and services

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

Thank you

I would like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who made the celebrations of Easter so wonderful in the Four Parishes. So many people were involved: in making the churches look amazing – cleaning, decorating and flower arranging, putting in fresh candles, changing the seasonal colours, and generally getting the churches ready for the different services over the period; tidying the churchyards; allowing their gardens, driveways and outdoor spaces to be used; printing and collating service sheets; choosing hymns and playing for services; leading services, preaching and writing prayers; cooking and offering hospitality for special gatherings; arranging an Easter Egg hunt; providing teas, coffees and refreshments after services; and to all who came and participated in the many events that took place. I hope you found it a blessed time at this most important time in the Christian calendar.

Ascension Day Service

14 May at 7am at Annie and Andrew Payne's, Studley Farm House, Brill Road, Horton-cum-Studley OX33 1BP.

This service is the time when we commemorate the story from the first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, where Jesus had been talking with his friends on the Mount of Olives, when suddenly he was 'lifted up' and a cloud took him out of their sight, and they were left gazing up towards heaven.

Once again, Annie and Andrew Payne have invited us to their garden for this wonderful service. They are again offering a generous invitation for coffee, bacon rolls or croissants afterwards, to entice us to the early service. This enticement has worked wonders in the past! All are welcome to the service and refreshments afterwards. There is plenty of parking on site.

Advent challenge and beyond

I hope you are still journeying with me. I confess that over Easter I have slipped a little so have a bit of catching up to do to get up to date, but I am still going and determined to get back on track. If you are on track, then a huge well done. If, like me you are a little behind, please do not give up. We can do this! Let us hope next month we are back on track. We are doing so well!

For May, for the Old Testament, we need to aim to finish Joshua, and read the whole of Judges, and 1 Samuel, Psalms up to chapter 68 and Proverbs up to chapter 13:19. For the New Testament, we need to aim to read the Gospel of John to chapter 20 verse 9.

I look forward to hearing how you get on. Please do let me know. It is great journeying together.

Ongoing midweek activities on Zoom

We are continuing Morning and Evening Prayer and the Four Parishes 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	
Four Parishes Book Group at 7.30pm			Y	

Book Group

By the time you read this we should have finished our reading of *The Wrong Messiah* by Nick Page. We have not yet chosen our new book to begin reading, but this might be a good time for you to join us if you would like to. Look out for updates in the weekly emails which will tell you what we have chosen.

We meet virtually by Zoom on **Thursday evenings at 7.30pm** for an hour. Please do get in touch with Anthea if you would like to come and join us. New members are always welcome and as we start a new book this may be an opportune time.

Home Study Group

The study group is continuing its look at the book called *Practising the Way* by John Mark Comer. The group meets on **Monday afternoons at 2.30pm** at Studley Farm House, Horton-cum-Studley. New members are always welcome, and 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.

Prayers for Peace

As the hope for peace in Ukraine continues to look far off, the war in Iran and the wider Middle East continues, the ceasefire in the Holy Land continues to look fragile, and news of atrocities in Sudan, Myanmar and Mozambique continue to come through, it is clear that God's peace is not present throughout the world, so we continue to pray for peace. We will meet for 15 minutes at **12pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays** in May in each of the churches across the Four Parishes as follows:

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

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, 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:	15 May at 7pm in Church
Forest Hill:	19 May at 6pm in Forest Hill Village Hall
Horton-cum-Studley:	happened in April
Stanton St John:	20 May at 7.30pm Stanton Village Hall

Dates for your diaries: concerts in the Four Parishes

This is not an exhaustive list, but dates that are already firmed up in our diaries:

Oxford Chamber Music Festival: **28 May, 5pm, Stanton** (see back cover)

Galliard Trio: **30 May, 5pm, Beckley**

Oxford Festival of the Arts: **14 June, 4pm Stanton (see below)

Oxford Festival of the Arts: **28 June, 4pm Beckley (see below)

Oxybaroxy: **12 July, 7.30pm, Stanton**

Ninebarrow: **20 November, 7pm, Stanton**

** you need to buy tickets in advance from Oxford Festival of the Arts for these concerts (see below for more details)

For more information about any of the items on pages 8-11 of the magazine, please contact me, Anthea Beresford. Email: anthea@fourparishes.org.uk Tel: 01865 351839 Mob: 07876 527514.

Oxford Festival of the Arts



Following their successful concert in Beckley Church last year, Oxford Festival of the Arts returns to the Four Parishes with a package of **two unique concerts featuring Voice, a vocal trio, and Stevie Wishart, acclaimed hurdy-gurdy player and composer, in Stanton Church (Sunday 14 June), and Beckley Church (Sunday 28 June).**

Another OFA concert with local connections takes place in the **University Church of St Mary the Virgin on Friday 12 June**, where **Schola Cantorum of Oxford** will give the **first performance of 'A Spider's Tapestry', by Cheryl Frances-Hoad, commissioned for Schola Cantorum and the Raschèr Saxophone Quartet by Julia Stutfield from Forest Hill.**

Tickets for all three concerts can be purchased at <https://artsfestivaloxford.org/>.

GENERAL

Opinion: Protecting Our Green Belt from the “Greater Oxford” Shadow



For generations, the villages of Forest Hill, Stanton St John, Beckley, and Horton-cum-Studley have enjoyed a distinct identity, separated from the urban sprawl of Oxford by the vital “lungs” of our Green Belt. However, a series of recent announcements suggests that this landscape is now squarely in the crosshairs of a massive, centrally-led expansion plan.

Oxford City Council has stated its aspiration for a “Greater Oxford” that could deliver between 43,000 and 67,000 new homes by 2040. To put that in perspective, my recent analysis of housing density shows that even a “conservative” addition of 40,000 homes would likely swallow up over 2,800 hectares of Green Belt land. That is an area nearly three-quarters the size of the entire current Oxford urban footprint.

While proponents claim this will only impact a tiny fraction of the Green Belt, their calculation often ignores the reality of modern development. To build real communities—with the necessary schools, surgeries, and green spaces—we cannot use the high-rise densities of a city centre. Based on current South Oxfordshire strategic sites, we are looking at losing up to 8% of the total Green Belt for 40,000 homes, and a staggering 13.6% if the 67,000-home target is pursued.

The Minister of State for Housing has already announced a consultation on a centrally-led development corporation to oversee growth in Greater Oxford. This risks stripping away local democratic control, handing the keys to our countryside to a body focused on national targets rather than local sustainability.

We all recognize the need for sensible housing, but this scale is ludicrous. It is environmentally damaging and would place impossible strain on our already creaking infrastructure. We must act now, during the upcoming government consultations, to ensure that our four parishes remain villages—not just another suburb in a concrete corridor.

Freddie van Mierlo MP for Henley and Thame

Delivering our Petition to No 10: Reject the 'Greater Oxford' Unitary Authority

On 25 March, the day before the deadline for the Government's consultation on the three proposals for Local Government Reorganisation for Oxfordshire, representatives from the 48 rural Green Belt parishes threatened with annexation to become part of Greater Oxford Unitary Authority presented our petition to No 10 Downing Street.

The petition had been signed by over 1,500 people. As one respondent commented 'We do not want to be part of Oxford'.

The results of the Government consultation are now being analysed, and the Secretary of State Steve Reed and Minister Alison McGovern will make the decision in the summer.

The photograph on the front cover of this magazine shows:

Back row left to right Charlie Maynard MP – Witney, Freddie van Mierlo MP – Henley and Thame, Cllr Andrew Clark - Stanton St John PC, Calum Miller MP – Bicester and Woodstock, Cllr David Robey – Kidlington PC.

Front row left to right Cllr Tim Bearder – Wheatley (OCC) and Forest Hill and Holton (SODC), Cllr Ginette Camps-Walsh Beckley and Stowood PC, Lisa Buchan Elsfield Parish Meeting.

The Art Barns at Bernwood Pottery

9 - 17 May, 2026, 10am - 5pm daily / Artweeks Venue 206

- Original Artwork by Local Artists

Including ceramics, painting, mixed media, jewellery and sculpture

- Demonstrations, Open Studio and Workshops

Workshops by advanced booking only

- Refreshments in a Farmyard Setting

Proceeds benefit Beckley CoE Primary School with an installation by the children



For more information contact Elizabeth: www.bernwoodpottery.com

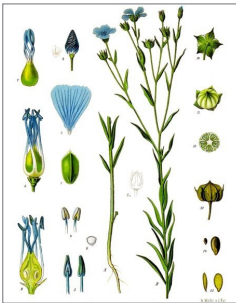
Bernwood Pottery • Old Arngrove Farm • Horton-cum-Studley • OX33 1DG

Retting, Scutching and Hackling by Lyn Ebbs

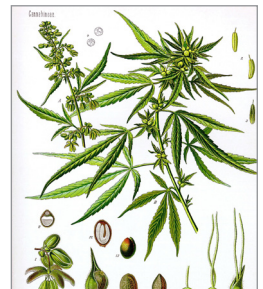
In one of Hans Christian Andersen's stories, 11 princes were turned into wild swans by their wicked step-mother. To reverse the spell, their sister, Elisa, had to make them shirts out of stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*). The story details the cruelty of the task, but Andersen may not have been aware that this was actually a traditional craft, and that the fibre from the stems of nettles had been used for millennia. There is evidence of nettle cloth production in both Scandinavia and Eastern Europe going back to the Bronze Age. It was still being produced as 'Scotch cloth' in Scotland until the 19th century and, in the first World War, the shortage of cotton resulted in the Germans cultivating nettles to make clothing. The white, silky fibres that nettles produce were considered to make a finer fabric than flax, and were therefore said to be preferred by the wealthy, maybe even princes?



You might be more familiar with linen, the textile that is made from cultivated flax (*Linum usitatissimum*). Still a popular fabric today, the earliest evidence of humans using wild flax as a fibre dates back 30,000 years. Wild flax was probably first domesticated in an area between the eastern Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf, where settled farming is believed to have first emerged. As a textile, it was widely used by the Ancient Egyptians. They used it for everything from ships' sails to shrouds for their mummies as well as uses more familiar to us, of clothing and bed linen. In the UK, flax was historically grown in places like Northern Ireland and some older readers may remember there was once a Belfast Linen shop in Oxford.



Hemp (*Cannabis sativa*) was also one of the first plants to be spun into usable fibre, around 12,000 years ago in East Asia. It's possibly one of the earliest domesticated plants, having been in use since Neolithic times. Historically hemp was used to make rope or cord as well as heavier weight textiles such



as sail canvas. Selective cultivation produced tall, fast-growing plants with long straight stems.

The usable fibre in these three plants is an inner fibre, called bast, found inside the woody, outer part of the stem, and the traditional process of obtaining it is similar in all three. To maximise the length of the stems, plants were harvested by pulling them up by the roots rather than cutting them. Bundled together, they were stripped of roots, leaves and seeds and hung out to dry. The stems were then retted, that is, left to rot in a damp field for several days, so they could ret in the dew. The rotted material was rinsed from the stems, and the stems cleaned with a scutching knife that was scraped along the fibres to pull away remaining pieces of the stalk. The last step was hackling, which split and straightened the fibres, by pulling them through hackling combs. After this they were straight, clean, and ready to spin (and finally knit into shirts).

While not themselves a fibre source, mulberry trees served in silk production for over 4,000 years in China. Leaves of White Mulberry (*Morus alba*) are the food plant of the silkworm (*Bombyx mori*), the cocoon of which is used to make silk. During their short life cycle, silkworms progress from eggs, through four larval stages until they spin a cocoon composed of a continuous thread of silk. To obtain the fibre, the silkworms are killed at this stage; traditionally, the thread was spun off cocoons which were soaked in hot water.



Italy and France had thriving silk industries in the Middle Ages, and King James I of England asked the nobility to plant 10,000 mulberry trees to support an English silk industry to rival that of the continent. Silk production didn't take off in England, however, because Black Mulberries (*Morus nigra*) were planted, not white!

Lyn Ebbs has lived in Stanton St John for 38 years and has been volunteering at the RSPB Otmoor Reserve at Otmoor Lane, Beckley, since 2009.

Eleanor Glanville and her Psyche

by Catherine Rye, Stanton St John

Did you know that there is only one British butterfly named after a person and that, surprisingly, it is a woman? Eleanor Glanville, née Goodricke, was born in the midst of the English Civil War in 1645 at Tickenham Court, Somerset. She was twice married, had five surviving children and had a passion for collecting and studying insects, especially butterflies, at a time when this was very unusual for a gentlewoman.

She was reportedly seen 'without all necessary cloathes' 'like a gypsy' and taking servant girls with her to lay sheets under bushes, beating the boughs with a long pole where they 'catch'd a parcel of wormes' (the term used for caterpillars at the time). These she would take home and observe as they pupated and eventually emerged into butterflies, and in turn laid their eggs on ribwort plantain and so began the cycle again.

She corresponded with, and sent samples, to several naturalists of the era, who respected her and her burgeoning collection. Some of which she donated and are now in the present day Natural History Museum.

There is not that much biographical detail about Eleanor, although it's told that her second marriage to Richard Glanville was abusive. It's tempting to think her butterfly collecting and scientific work was an escape and a solace even if she risked her reputation to pursue it. This was a time when accusations of witchcraft were still made of women who were believed to have transgressed.



Having inherited wealth in her own right, there was much fighting over her Will after she died. Not wanting any of her money or property to go to Richard she bequeathed the major part to a cousin. One of her sons then challenged this decision in court with the argument that she was clearly not of sound mind because of all her eccentric insect collecting. Sadly the judge agreed, declaring that 'no one, not deprived of their senses, should go in pursuit of butterflies' and her Will was struck down.



More happily in subsequent years, a butterfly species, that Eleanor had caught in Lincolnshire and sent to entomologist James Petiver, was named by him in her memory. Eleanor's specimen was presented by Petiver to Carl Linnaeus in 1758 when he described it as *Melitaea cinxia*. The Glanville Fritillary is now only to be found in the Isle of Wight although it's possible that climate change may increase its range onto the mainland.

The compelling story of Eleanor and her butterfly is the basis of my new exhibition taking place at the Cornerstone Art Centre in Didcot from **1-30 May** as part of Oxfordshire Artweeks <https://cornerstone-arts.org>. In textile, embroidery, print, collage, written word and video I am attempting to depict what it meant for a woman to refuse to conform to expected conventions and to imagine her explorations of the natural world.

Although nowadays we use the word 'psyche' to mean the mind, in Greek mythology Psyche was depicted as a mortal with butterfly wings, and represents the soul enduring earthly trials to transcend and achieve immortality and freedom.

**The Maple Tree Children's Centre,
Littleworth Road, Wheatley OX33 1PH**



Mondays: Messy Monday at 10-11.30am
and **Twins' Club** at 2-4pm

Tuesdays: Smart Start at 9.30-11.30am

Wednesdays: Maple Babies at 9.30am-12pm
Health visitors 1st Wednesday of the month.

Thursdays: Time to Rhyme at 9.30-11.30am
and **The Maple Tree at Forest Hill Village Hall** from 10.30am-12pm

Fridays: Little Learners at 10-11.30am

Saturdays: Family Fun at 10-11.30am on 18 April, 16 May and 20 June.

**Date for your diary: a fundraising Jazz Concert at St Mary's Church,
Wheatley, Saturday 16 May, 7pm.** See below for more details.

All of our sessions are drop-ins. While our sessions are free of charge, we ask for a recommended donation of £3/family. Visiting the Health Visitors is always free.

We are here to help if you need advice or support:

Telephone: 01865 236700 Email: info@mapletree.org.uk

Website: www.mapletree.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley

Laura Spencer, The Maple Tree Centre Manager

The CJ Ensemble



Sat 16th May, 7pm
St Mary's Church, Wheatley

A concert supporting the Wheatley Maple Tree
Children's Centre. Tickets £12 on the door or
use QR above

BECKLEY

Beckley Church

Details of all church services and general church news can be found on pages 4 - 11. Any changes to the published schedule of services will be on our website www.fourparishes.org.uk.

It was wonderful that on Holy Saturday, about 40 people, including 10 children, joined in the Passion Play. Afterwards refreshments at Common Farm were much appreciated.

On Easter Day there were 15 people at the inspiring Dawn Service at 6.20am. Afterwards there were welcome 'bacon butties' kindly provided by Susy Jepson.

Coffee (or tea!), cake and chat

This month we will return to the last Saturday, **30 May, 10.30am-12pm** in the church. If you haven't been before, do give it a try! It's always a lovely occasion, and a good way of meeting friends and newcomers, and also for visiting the 'library pew' next to the shelves at the west end of the church, where there is an excellent selection of books for all ages.

Dates for your diary

On **30 May, 5pm**, the **Galliard Trio** will return to give another exciting concert. Please do come! There will be more details of the programme nearer the time.

Beckley's biennial **Open Day** is coming up on **Sunday 14 June**, in aid, as usual, of the Beckley Church Fabric Fund. Come and see the many gardens (expected to be at least a dozen) which will be open to view, buy plants, homemade cakes, and raffle tickets for exciting prizes, visit the flower painting exhibition in the church, have a delicious tea in the School Hall and listen to the many buskers throughout the village. Take advantage of the great offer from The Abingdon Arms: buy a ticket from midday, and get 25% off your bill in the pub. The pub will then donate 5% of all its takings from the offer to the Fabric Fund!

On **28 June, 4pm**, in the church, **Voice**, a group of women singing a *cappella* will again give a recital. They came for the first time last year, and were hugely appreciated. See page 11 for more details.

Beckley and Area Community Benefit Society Ltd (BACBS)

Open share offer

The share offer to support the future of The Abingdon Arms is still open. Shareholders are now entitled to 10% off food and drink at the pub: for further information email theabingdonarms@gmail.com. **More than a Pub programme**

The Beckley & Area Community Benefit Society (BACBS) continues its popular activities at our community-owned pub The Abingdon Arms, Beckley, to which all are welcome. Do come, enjoy, and support your local pub. For more information email info@bacbs.org.

Pub quiz

First Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm in The Abingdon Arms – with pizza. The next one will be on **Wednesday 6 May**. Table bookings essential – tables sell out every month, days before the quiz happens. Teams should comprise no more than six people. It's free to enter and, thanks to The Abingdon Arms, there's a free round of drinks for the winning team.

Community walk

Our walks take place monthly on the third Sunday of each month. The next one will be **17 May, 2pm**. The walk leader and starting point will be posted on our website (above) nearer the time. Come along and meet your neighbours for a gentle walk and a friendly chat.

Sunday evening talks, last Sunday of the month, 6.30pm in the pub

On **31 May**, Beckley's Adrian Pennink, who gave us extraordinary insights into making a film about Gabon in 2024, is going to talk about his latest venture – 'Pizzas under fire' – a film about a group taking pizzas and facepainting to Ukraine.

Then on **28 June**, Maurice East, who last year talked to us on the history of Headington Quarry, will return to tell us about 'Detroit on Thames - How William Morris built a car factory and changed Oxford forever'.

Sally Bayley, who was to speak to us in March, will now give her talk in July.

More information about the BACBS More than a Pub activities can be found at <https://bacbs.org/events>.

BACBS Good Neighbour Scheme

The Good Neighbour Scheme gives lifts to those with no other transport, for example, to the doctor as well as lifts to the Barton/Green Road roundabout, where there are regular buses into Headington and central Oxford. The scheme serves Beckley, Elsfield, Stanton, Forest Hill, Woodeaton, and Noke.

To request a lift, ring either 07514 791910 (if no answer, leave a message) or email BACBSgoodneighbour@gmail.com. If you know of anyone who might need help, and perhaps does not know this service exists, please do let them know. If you would like to volunteer, please email the above address.

Beckley and Stowood Parish Council

Annual Open Parish Meeting

Monday 11 May, 7pm, Beckley Village Hall

All are cordially invited to hear what the Parish Council, church, local clubs, and groups have been up to with an opportunity to give feedback and ask questions. This meeting will be followed by the Village Hall AGM. We do hope to see you there.

Next Parish Council Meeting

This will be on **18 May at 7pm** in Beckley Village Hall.

Review of 108 and H5 bus contracts

The County Council is reviewing all financially supported bus services, including 108 which serves the Four Parishes and H5 from Bicester to the JR and Headington and back. This review is in advance of the tendering of new contracts to commence on Sunday 30 August, 2026.

Cllr Rachel Khiara our Parish Transport Representative on the County is preparing our response and would be pleased to hear experiences and comments on these services from users via the Clerk's email address.

Repair to Playground

The playground has now been repaired and reopened. It took two days to complete. Some of the posts have been renewed (see photo) as well as the bearing in the equipment.



FOREST HILL

St Nicolas Church

Details of all church services and general church news can be found on pages 4 - 11. Any changes to the published schedule of services will be on our website www.fourparishes.org.uk.

Four Parishes Children's Choir at St Nicolas

St Nicolas Church, Forest Hill, hosts the Four Parishes Children's Church service at 4pm on the first Sunday of every month. The service was created to be particularly suitable for pre-school and primary school children and lasts 30 minutes. It aims to provide children with a gentle introduction to the experience of being in church. There is always a warm welcome for all, and we do not expect children to be completely silent, but comfortable in the surroundings.

With the support of members of the regular St Nicolas Choir, Julia Stutfield has recently started a Children's Choir to sing at this monthly service and we are ready to recruit a few more singers. The target age is 5 – 9 years old, but older children are also welcome, as are younger siblings. The service usually includes three hymns or songs, along with simple, structured prayers and liturgy.

For more details, including rehearsal tracks for the music go to <https://www.stnicolasforesthill.org/childrens-choir> or message Julia on 07766 103427 or julia.stutfield@gmail.com.



Jazz on the Hill at Forest Hill Village Hall

Tuesday 12 May 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!

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.

Forest Hill with Shotover Parish Council

Notes from the Parish Council Meeting on 9 April 2026

Children's play area

A concern was raised in the public forum regarding cigarette ends and signs of cannabis use in the hut by the slide on the Recreation Ground. This is a recurring issue that seems to have moved from the upper bench in the Recreation Ground over the winter. The police will be informed if this continues. **A reminder: this is a children's play area and must remain a safe environment. If you see anything untoward, please report it.**

Grass cutting

The council has appointed a new contractor for the coming year. Rectory Farm will be taking on the work. We are pleased to have a local farmer, who knows the ground well, on board.

Potholes

The most effective action you can take is to report issues on [fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/](https://www.fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/), and keep reporting them: every individual report genuinely counts.

Traffic through the village

Exiting the village via Stanton Road has become increasingly difficult. The council will be writing to Highways to seek advice on easing the squeeze.

New website

The refreshed Parish Council website is now live, with a new look, and new information. Please take a look at www.foresthillwithshotover-pc.gov.uk and send us your feedback.

Summer fete

A group of villagers (independent of the Parish Council) has offered to organise a summer fete. The council has in-principle approved the use of the Rec for the event—more details will follow as the date approaches.

Next meeting of the Parish Council is on Thursday 14 May at 7pm in Forest Hill Village Hall. Dates of meetings, agendas and minutes can be found on the Forest Hill website: www.foresthillwithshotover-pc.gov.uk and on the Village Hall noticeboard. You can contact the Clerk by email at: theclerk@foresthillwithshotover-pc.org.uk or telephone 0844 884 3328 (premium rate), between 9am and 5pm and leave a message.

The Maple Tree at Forest Hill, Thursdays 10.30am-12pm

The Thursday morning 'stay and play' sessions for babies and toddlers continue to run in Forest Hill Village Hall every week throughout the year.



There is no need to book, but please email julia.stutfield@gmail.com or message Julia on 07766 103427 if you have any questions.

For a full list of activities run by The Maple Tree Children's Centre in Wheatley, see www.mapletree.org.uk.

Friday Pop-Up Coffee Shop

Forest Hill Village Hall, Friday 22 May, 10.30am -12pm

Bring a friend, make some new ones! The monthly Pop-Up Coffee Shop is run by villagers to raise money for the Forest Hill Baby and Toddler Group (generally known as The Maple Tree at Forest Hill) and St Nicolas Church.

Donations of cakes will be appreciated.

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

Forest Hill Village Hall

Our village hall, situated on Main Street in the heart of the village, provides a welcoming communal space for all to use.

Regular events include weekly exercise classes and a baby and toddler group, as well as the monthly 'Pop-Up Coffee Shop' and 'Jazz on the Hill'.

For more information, email Stephen Robinson spr500@gmail.com or go to <https://communityfirstoxon.org/community-action/hubs-halls-shops/community-halls-directory/forest-hill-village-hall/>.

HORTON-cum-STUDLEY

St Barnabas Church

Details of all church services and general church news can be found on pages 4 - 11. Any changes to the published schedule of services will be on our website www.fourparishes.org.uk.

St Barnabas News



On **Friday 1 May, 6-8.30pm, at St Barnabas**, the Dog and Collar will celebrate May Day with friends and villagers with a drink. Everyone welcome

Coffee and Chat

Saturday, 9 May, 10am-12pm, at St Barnabas

Why not start your weekend with a lovely mug of coffee (or tea) and a piece of cake? You could catch up with neighbours or meet new neighbours, especially if you have recently moved to the village. Everyone is welcome to drop in. No charge. Donations and dogs welcome.

Horton-cum-Studley Gardening Club

Tulips – rare beauties

Tulips are indigenous to and the national flower of Turkey. Sultan Ahmed III started the tradition of presenting the gift of tulip bulbs to important guests at his palace. In the Ottoman Empire they were highly prized. The tulip borrows its name from the Turban which the lower shape resembles.

Those first tulips gifts were originally eaten rather than planted. The soil proved to be suitable and today Holland is synonymous with tulips. The Keukenhof gardens, a 32-hectare park, features over 7 million bulbs.

Carolus Clusius is credited with bringing tulips to the Netherlands, to the botanic garden at Leiden University in 1593. Clusius was meticulous in researching the 'flames' and stripes on these tulips. It was the 19th century before it was discovered that these are actually the result of a virus. He wrote the first major



book on tulips in 1593. They became the most sought after and expensive bulbs to buy, resulting in a tulip mania in sixteenth-century Holland.

Tulipmania arose when the red/white "*Semper Augustus*" became the most desirable tulip to cultivate. The major acceleration started in 1634, with the average price of a single flower exceeding the annual income of a skilled worker and costing more than some houses. The bubble burst in February 1637 with many losing everything they owned.



Artists such as *Ambrosius Bosschaert* started a trend for Flower Paintings where flowers of mixed seasons were painted from imagination rather than life. Tulips feature as strong images and were invaluable for those who were unable to afford actual bulbs. Beautiful seventeenth-century Delft blue/white tulip vases were created specifically to show up the beauty of individual tulips.

In the nineteenth century, William Morris's tulip design found new popularity in Arts & Crafts designs.

Our garden visit to Chenies Manor on **Tuesday 5 May**, will continue the idea of tulip festivals, which are still very popular today.

Anna Steven

Gardening Club Contacts 2026

Chair: Chris Pugh pughchrisw@gmail.com

Visits: Anna Steven annam.steven@gmail.com

Treasurer: Cathy Jenkins cathy@ccjenkins.co.uk

Secretary: Lyn Senior lynsenior@hotmail.com

Otmoor Challenge 2026



The much loved Otmoor Challenge returns on **Saturday 30 May 2026**, and we're looking forward to another fantastic day of running and community spirit. Registration is now open for runners wishing to take part in either the 10k or half marathon, taking in the beautiful Otmoor countryside.

On the day, the WI will once again be providing tea, coffee and delicious cakes – a huge thank you to them for their continued support.

We are still seeking additional volunteers to help on the day, particularly as marshals and at water stations. Any help, even for a short time, would be greatly appreciated.

Everyone is warmly invited to come along and cheer the runners over the finish line. There will be a pop up pub, a pizza van, and a collection of classic cars to enjoy making it a great day out for the whole community. Whether you're running, volunteering, supporting, or just enjoying the atmosphere, we hope to see you there!



Sponsorship needed: can you help?

There are several ways your sponsorship could help this year's event:

1. New signage - to replace old signs and help the runners and walkers at the start / finish
2. Cups for the female and male winners of the 10k bringing it in line with the half marathon
3. Trophies for the winners of the various running categories
4. Equipment hire to help with course preparation
5. First Aid cover - an essential (hopefully not needed) part of the day

If you can help in any way, please contact the committee at landrethr63@gmail.com.

Horton-cum-Studley Parish Council News

Annual Parish Meeting

This will take place in the **Millennium Village Hall** on **Wednesday 13 May at 8pm**, taking the form of an 'Open Discussion' involving all villagers who wish to attend. This is an Election year, and a new four-year term starts for our Parish Councillors.

The 'Open Discussion' can cover a range of topics that affect our community. The length of the meeting will depend on the topics raised and your attendance. It is worth saying that this is a delightful place in which to live and well worth looking after. Compared to many, our problems may be few but they are important to us. Some recent issues include:

- **Traffic**, mainly around volume, but also breaches of weight restrictions and speeding.
- The quality of our **roads** is poor and, in some places, unsafe.
- The level of **precept** (Village part of Council Tax) is low compared with other Villages. More tax could provide more services if identified locally as worthy and appropriate.
- Litter picking is currently annual but the **rubbish** remaining after the last pick up was noticeable.
- **Electricity** supply interruptions, **Bus services**, **Village Hall**.

The re-organisation of local government by the Government will affect us – you may be aware that the two tiers of District and County Councils are set to be abolished in Oxfordshire and the geography of the new 'unitary authorities' (all services provided through one Council) is likely to be determined over this summer. We can feed back on the Parish Council's relationship with the Police, Cherwell District and Oxfordshire County Councils and take any observations on services as we enter this new era.

Speedwatch team volunteers

As those of you who live near any of the entry/exit roads into the village will be particularly aware, we continue to have an issue with speeding drivers. The Speedwatch initiative supported by Thames Valley Police has helped to dampen speeding enthusiasts but one can still regularly come across extra-ordinary driving within the Village confines.

At present, we have a dedicated team managing the monitoring sessions; however, additional assistance is required to ensure the long-term sustainability of the scheme. We need a little of your time once you have completed the initial training course.

If you think you can help us please do get in touch with Andrew Payne at hcsppayne@gmail.com with any questions and, if you can, join the team.

Millennium Village Hall

Playground

The original installers, Playdale, completed the replacement installation in February and the new fixtures have been open for business for some time. The zip wire has also been upgraded with new seat, cable, and tensioner mechanism. User feedback will be welcome.

AGM

The Trust's Annual General meeting will be held on **Wednesday 24 June at 8pm in the hall** - this is not as boring as you might think, so come along and share your thoughts on our village asset.

Stuart Macfarlane

Tennis for all

Horton-cum-Studley Tennis Club



The new season has started at your local community tennis club. Would you consider joining us on court for some of the lowest tennis membership fees you will find in the UK?

Family membership: £80

Individual Adult membership: £47

Individual Junior membership: £20

We froze our membership fees at the beginning of the pandemic, and as long as we have a cost-of-living crisis, we will do what we can to make sure that the membership fee is not the thing preventing you from enjoying our sport. Learn more on our website:

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

STANTON ST JOHN

St John the Baptist Church

Details of all church services and general church news can be found on pages 4 - 11. Any changes to the published schedule of services will be on our website www.fourparishes.org.uk.

Coffee Mornings

These take place in **Stanton Village Hall, 10.30am-12pm** on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Wednesday 20 May, Monday 22 June, Monday 20 July

Come for tea, coffee and cake! Everyone is welcome. For further details, contact Sue Baker 01865 351449.

Stanton St John Spring Quiz

Thank you to everyone who came along to the quiz on 24 March at Stanton St John Village Hall. We were very pleased with the outcome and that we were able to share over £200 between our chosen charities, the St John's Church windows project and RSPB Otmoor.



It was a close contest, with the top three teams scoring 78, 77 and 76% in the end. And for information, this is what an Earth Star looks like.

Open Garden and Concert in Stanton Church

Thursday 28 May, 4pm and 5pm

College House Garden will be open, with refreshments available at 4pm. See back cover for more details. Admission to the 5pm concert is free, with a suggested donation at the door of £10 or more in aid of the Stanton Church Repair Fund.

Stanton St John Women's Institute



Our exceptionally well-attended meeting on 14 April was 'Tennis over the Years' by Pam McGrath. Tennis player Pam is in her 90s and she was in fact Ladies Over 90's World Singles Champion. Her tennis career is an inspiration to all, along with her mantra that life begins at 80!



We're going in a totally different direction with our next meeting at **7.30pm on Tuesday 12 May 2026**, when it's 'Trust Me I'm a Chatbot' by Michelle Johnson. We're hearing a lot in the news about the hazards of AI, so it will be great to get Michelle's advice on spotting AI and online scams, and to find out what we need to do to stay safe on our various devices.



The meeting is open to all, so please come along to hear an informative talk and enjoy our friendly atmosphere. SSJ WI members free; guests £4 (includes light refreshments).

At the time of writing we are also making preparations to provide refreshments for the SSJ Annual Parish Meeting while keeping our fingers crossed that we don't have to do it during a power cut this year.

Stanton St John Film Club

Saturday 30 May, 7.45pm, Stanton St John Village Hall

The Choral

Our last film of the season is *The Choral*. Written by Alan Bennett and directed by Nicholas Hytner, the film is set during the first world war. It tells the story of men in a fictional Yorkshire town's choral society who are too old or too young to fight, their wives and girlfriends. For their next production, German composers such as Bach and Handel being unacceptable, choirmaster, Dr Guthrie, proposes to his ragtag crew of amateurs a radical new production of Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*. See the official trailer here: [THE CHORAL | Official Trailer](#) (2025)



Doors open at 7pm for delicious cakes and hot drinks before the film; the bar will be serving wines. Only 60 seats available, please reserve yours beforehand with Sue Baker: susanjbaker24@gmail.com. Tickets at the door, £5 (cash only).

Stanton St John Parish Council

The Parish Council met on 16 March, with five councillors and members of the public in attendance.

A key issue raised during the public forum was ongoing flooding on Mill Street. A resident highlighted concerns about blocked drains caused by limescale build-up and the resulting pollution entering the nearby stream. The Council agreed to follow up with Highways to explore possible solutions.

County and District Councillor Tim Bearder provided updates on plans for the Shepherds Pit Lane closure and cycle improvements, expected to progress in early summer, as well as developments in local government reorganisation.

The Council also discussed:

- **Cox Lane verge damage**, where residents will be encouraged to use the Village Hall car park to reduce roadside parking and protect verges.
- **Path clearance**, agreeing to arrange removal of debris from a raised footpath following a resident request.
- **Village Hall arrangements**, with councillors supporting the creation of a formal agreement to clarify responsibilities between the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee.

Other updates included promotion of a defibrillator training course on 27 March, plans for the **Annual Parish Meeting on 20 April**, and the installation of new “no dog” signage in the recreation ground.

Bus service

Please let John Battye know of any problems with the bus service, e.g. deviations from the scheduled times. Any comments or suggestions concerning service welcome: john.battye1@gmail.com or 01865 358984.

Stanton St John News

Do you want to receive village and Parish Council notifications (events, and important news that may affect you)? If so, sign up using the QR code below or <https://stanton-st-john-news.email/>.



Carpet of Flowers

If you take time to walk across Stanton Churchyard this month you will be welcomed by a carpet of bluebells, primroses and cowslips. These follow the drifts of snowdrops that appeared in early spring.

This abundance of wild flowers has appeared following many years of careful grassland management to ensure the wild flowers thrive. The Churchyard will be taking part for the third year running in the nationwide No Mow May project. We know it can make the churchyard look a little unkempt in places for a while but we are not neglecting it. We know we are increasing its value as a wildlife habitat that is accessible and free for everyone to enjoy.

We are particularly proud of the Bee and Pyramidal orchids and are looking forward to seeing what else might appear this year.



RECTORY FARM EST 1894
FARM SHOP, CAFE, PICK YOUR OWN

PYO NOW OPEN FOR SPRING

NEW CAFE MENU BY THE MEET POINT COFFEE

LOCAL & FARM GROWN PRODUCE IN THE SHOP

RECTORY FARM, STANTON ST JOHN, OXFORD. OX33 1HF

THE MEET POINT COFFEE

BOOKING REQUIRED FOR MAY HALF TERM PYO: www.rectoryfarmpyo.co.uk



★★★★★
Trusted by 1000's
of cat owners!

Going on Holiday?

Trust The Cat Butler, the sitting service that's **exclusively for cats!**

- Feline friendly cattery alternative
- Affordable daily home visits
- Free home care & security service
- Fully vetted and insured

Give us a call and let us pamper your feline friends in the familiar surroundings of their own home.

Telephone: 01844 213961

Email: thame@thecatbutler.co.uk

Visit us at www.thecatbutler.co.uk

WWW.FROGORANGEBALLOONS.CO.UK

Oxfordshire delivery Mon-Sun

FREE DELIVERY*



Balloon bouquets
Event decor
Cash & confetti-filled balloons!
LED balloons
Walking animal balloons

Local, family-run business
Delivery all over Oxfordshire
Est 2001
Hand-delivered by us!
Same day delivery available

Bespoke **PERSONALISED**
Free **NEXT DAY DELIVERY***

01865 766777

balloons@frogorange.co.uk



*free delivery to OX3, OX53, OX2, OX5 - charges apply elsewhere



Compassionate Care at Home Supporting You and Your Family

Enjoy life in the home you love with Mumby's Live-in Care. Our dedicated carers provide professional, compassionate support so you can stay independent, safe, and comfortable—right where you belong.



"Genuine lifesaver! My mother needed at-home care quickly and Mumby's were swift and thorough in providing it. The carers provided have been excellent, especially when my mum was ill - the real test!"

Inspected and rated

Outstanding ☆



Discover how we can help:

☎ 01865 391 187

✉ info@mumbys.com

🌐 www.mumbys.com



- Scarification
- Hollow Tining
- Lawn Aeration
- Over Seeding

- Top Dressing
- Weed Removal
- Moss Control
- Professional Service

NO CONTRACT

Contact Steve

01865 331501 07894 983801

Email cotswolds@greensleeves-uk.com

Yoga with Rosa



Vinyasa flow yoga

Every Thursday at 18:30

Village Hall

Stanton St John, OX33 1HD

Scan here



07392 939103

bookwhen.com/rosangela

Please bring your own mat

ACHEY BACK? CREAKY JOINTS? TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME?

Come and get "ironed out" at PILATES with PAULINE a fully qualified and experienced instructor.

Safe, gentle exercise to help re-align the body, improve posture and tone muscles.

Monday 10.30 - 11.30am

Wednesday 10.30 - 11.30am, 7 - 7.55pm

Small groups so booking essential!

For more information or to make a booking please contact Pauline on 07710 588367 pauline@plcfitness.co.uk

JARROTT WATCHES

Watch repair and restoration in the Oxfordshire area.

We are pleased to offer a range of services, including:

- Battery Replacements
- Watch Restoration
- Strap & Bracelet Repairs & Changes
- Cleaning & Polishing
- Servicing & Maintenance
- Custom Watch Builds
- Watch Sourcing
- Second Hand Watch Sales

Contact us now to discuss your requirements and get a free quotation!

WWW.JARROTT.WATCH 01865 362 794 HELLO@JARROTT.WATCH

QUALITY KITCHENS NOT COSTLY SHOWROOMS

LIQUID SPACE DESIGN LTD

We are based in Horton-cum-Studley

VERY HIGH QUALITY KITCHENS

Over 1200 kitchens installed in the last 18 years

Over 40 years experience in kitchen industry

Please view our work at

www.liquidspacedesign.co.uk

Tel: 07786 938640 enquiries@liquidspacedesign.co.uk

SJM

MOTOR REPAIRS

Shotover Kilns, Old Rd, Oxford OX3 8ST

A Family Business Built on Trust...

Sam Mitchell and the team at SJM Motor Repairs Oxford have been serving the local community for over 25 years.

Cars belonging to local villagers can be dropped off at Sam's house in Ventfield Close, Horton-cum-Studley. Sam will take the car into work, MOT and service it, and bring it back at the end of the day for collection.

Tel: 01865 308 007

Email: samfivewood@btinternet.com

Website: www.sjmmotors-oxford.co.uk

Windmill Windows Est 1999

A local family run business supplying and installing a large range of products in all materials

*Windows, Doors, Bi-folds & Patio Sliders,
Conservatories, Facia/Soffit & Guttering, Glazing*

Please call us or visit our website for information. All quotations are free of charge or obligation.

Unit 1, Walnut Farm, 68 Worminghall Road, Oakley, Bucks HP18 9QY
01844 237070 www.windmillwindows.com



MOSSINATOR[®]
ROOF CLEANING SYSTEMS

Moss Removal & Roof Cleaning
Patio, Render & Brickwork Cleaning
Solar Panel Bird Protection & Chimney Cowl Installation
info@mossinator.co.uk - 01865 362797

WINDOW **WIZARD** DOUBLE GLAZING REPAIRS

M: 07534 296950

E: info@windowwizardrepairs.com

www.windowwizardrepairs.com

- Blown - Replacement Sealed Units
- Faulty - Broken Window Hinges
- Replacement Window Locks
- Fire Hinges - Child Restrictor Hinges
- Cat Flaps fitted into Door Panels or Glass
- Replacement Door Barrels
- No Callout Fee - Free Quotations

Covering Oxford, Aylesbury
& Surrounding Area





MINIBUILD

**Minibuild, specialising In refurbishment works in Oxford
and the surrounding villages**

Visit our website www.minibuild.org.uk or simply send an email or call

Email: minibuildoxford@gmail.com

Phone: 07717 128949

For references and more information visit Checkatrade.com then
click on 'look up member by name' (Minibuild)

Steve Washington

Plumbing, Heating, Leadwork Specialist
Free Estimates Given



Home: 01865 873577

Mobile: 07759 781794

Email: washingtonsltd@gmail.com

OWEN HANDYMAN SERVICES

All your jobs taken care of - one phone call - very good rates

Been in the business for 44 years - no job too big or too small

Work guaranteed, references on request

Mobile: 07780 676521

Email: owenbennett@hotmail.co.uk






Sonite

Services include:

- Domestic & Commercial
- Maintenance & fault finding
- LED & Garden lighting
- Fuse board upgrades
- Testing
- EICR & PAT testing (incl. landlord certificates)
- Rewires

NEC EIC Approved Electrical Contractor
Local, family run business
Over 30 years' experience

 sdheasman@yahoo.co.uk

 07734 477949



ABC Gas and Plumbing Limited

Your local gas safe registered engineer

- Boiler installations * Power flushing * Leaks *
Servicing * Domestic plumbing * Gas safety checks
* Renewables * Taps * Radiators * Bathrooms

24 hour
emergency
call out

Mobile: 07849116805 or 07894466025

Email: ABCGasandPM@gmail.com

Website: www.ABCGasandPlumbing.co.uk



MSM Electrical

- Full Rewires
- Extensions
- Extra Sockets & Lights
- Garden Lighting & Power
- Electrical Vehicle Charging Points
- Small Jobs Welcome



REGISTERED PART P
LANDLORDS CERTIFICATES

Contact Martin Shaw: 07860 795 605 / 01865 872681
msmelectrical61@gmail.com

Stanton St John Open Garden and Concert

Thursday 28 May, 4pm and 5pm



Violinist Priya Mitchell, Founder and Artistic Director of the Oxford Chamber Music Festival (OCMF), is bringing the Festival to Stanton St John with a concert at the end of May. It will be a rare treat to have such exceptional musicianship and talent playing in Stanton Church!

The concert will serve as an introduction to the Festival, to be held in a variety of venues in and around Oxford at the end of September. More information is available on the OCMF website <https://ocmf.net/>.

Admission to the 5pm concert is free, with a suggested donation at the door of £10 or more in aid of the Stanton Church Repair Fund. Donations will be matchfunded by the Gresswell Environment Trust.

Prior to the concert, College House Garden will be open, with refreshments available. Details are as follows:

4pm College House Open Garden

5pm Concert in Stanton Church



The 5pm concert is followed by a **ticketed, fundraising Musical Soiree at College House for potential Supporters, Friends and Angels of the Oxford Chamber Music Festival.** Details are as follows:

6.30pm Drinks on the Lawn and Open Garden

7.30pm Music at College House, followed by an Informal Supper

Tickets for the Musical Soiree are £60 per head and local tickets are strictly limited, so please reserve if interested by contacting Nicola Mallows: 07817 122214 or nicolagresswell@gmail.com.