

YARNTON

APRIL
2026

VILLAGE

NEWS

Editorial Committee:

Ruth Astall, 19 The Spears, OX5 1NS, tel. 372637 – *Editor*
Mary Clarke, Woodbine Villa, 18 Rutten Lane, OX5 1LN,
tel. 07947 659788 - *Secretary and Assistant Editor*
Sue Brewerton, 150 Rutten Lane, OX5 1LS, tel. 01865 460383 -
Treasurer
Richard Briggs, email: r.a.briggs@hotmail.co.uk - *Distribution*

www.facebook.com/Yarnton Village Community Group

CALENDAR FOR THE MONTH

Scouts - all open to both boys and girls

Mondays Cubs aged 8–10, 6.30 p.m. – 8 p.m.
 Explorers aged 14–18, 8.15 p.m. – 9.15 p.m.
Wednesdays Beavers aged 6–8, 5 p.m. – 6.15 p.m.
Fridays Scouts aged 10–14, 7 p.m. – 8.45 p.m.

Girl Guiding

Tuesdays Guides aged 10-14, 6.30 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Wednesdays Brownies aged 7-10, 6.30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Monday 6th Indoor Bowls Club, Village Hall, 10 a.m. *(and every Monday)*

Monday 6th Community Drop In, Village Hall, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
(and every Monday)

Monday 6th Yarnton Band, 7.30 p.m. - 8.45 p.m. *(and every Monday, except Bank Holidays)*

Tuesday 7th Yarnton Bridge Club, Village Hall, 9.30 a.m. *(and every Tuesday)*

Wednesday 1st Lunch Club, Village Hall, 1 p.m.

Thursday 2nd Yarnton Band Learners and Training Band, 6.45 p.m. - 7.25 p.m.

 Senior Band, 7.30 p.m. - 8.45 p.m. *(and every Thursday)*

Thursday 2nd Maundy Thursday service, St. Bartholomew's, 7 p.m.

Friday 3rd Good Friday service, St. Bartholomew's, 2 p.m.

Sunday 5th Easter Sunday Dawn Vigil, St. Bartholomew's, 6 a.m., Holy Communion, 11 a.m.,
followed by an Easter Egg Hunt

 Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 6.30 p.m.

Wednesday 8th W.I. Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 9th Copy date May Village News

Friday 10th Lunch Club, Village Hall, 1 p.m.

Wednesday 15th Gardening Club, Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 16th Annual Parish Meeting, Village Hall, 6.30 p.m.

Wednesday 22nd Lunch Club, Village Hall, 1 p.m.

Wednesday 29th Lunch Club, Village Hall, 1 p.m.

St. Bartholomew's Church

Regular services

Sundays 8 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

 11 a.m. Parish Communion, with Junior Church, followed by coffee

Wednesdays 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion

On Facebook Sundays, 9.30 a.m. Sunday Eucharist

Happy

Easter



Advertising Rates

One-eighth A4 page: £13 per issue, £117 per year. One-quarter A4 page: £21 per issue, £189 per year.

One-half A4 page: £35 per issue, £315 per year. Whole A4 page: £60 per issue.

Classified Ads: 5p per word. Must include telephone number.

The Editorial Committee in no way accepts responsibility for services supplied by our advertisers.

Distributed free of charge at the beginning of each month to every household in Yarnton.

Yarnton Village News is printed by KMS Litho (Litho & Digital Impressions Ltd.), tel. 01608 737640, email: enquiries@kmslitho.co.uk

If you contact any of our advertisers, please tell them you found them in the Yarnton Village News.

Donations towards our running costs will be gratefully received at any time. The bank details are: Yarnton Village News, Sort code 09 01 54, Account No. 42646089.

Copy Deadline for May Issue

Material for inclusion in the May Newsletter should be received by midday on **Friday 10th April**.

Copy should be e-mailed to: ruth@astall.com and maryclarke2305@googlemail.com

or delivered to Mrs. Ruth Astall, 19 The Spears, tel. 372637.

The Editorial Committee reserves the right to cut, edit, or omit articles, or refuse advertisements for reasons of space limitation, suitability, etc. Their decision is final and no correspondence can be entered into.

Copy date for the June issue is **Friday 8th May**.

Village News Distribution

We are looking for volunteers to help with the distribution of the Village News – either on an occasional basis when someone is ill or on holiday, or to take on a round in the future when needed.

We would also appreciate a couple more volunteers to be part of the team which delivers the bulk copies to the various distributors.

If you think you could help, then please contact Richard Briggs on the email address on the front cover.

Thank you.

Village News Committee

Yarnton Village Hall New Roof Project

Yarnton Village Hall is set to undergo a significant improvement project this spring, with plans confirmed to replace the existing roof and install solar panels.

The project, which has been in development for some time, will see the existing ageing roof replaced with a modern, durable structure designed to better protect the hall from the elements while improving insulation and overall efficiency. As part of the upgrade, solar panels will be installed, marking a significant step towards reducing the hall's environmental impact and ongoing energy costs.

Funding for the project has been secured through a combination of sources. Yarnton Village Hall has contributed over 60% of the total cost, demonstrating a strong commitment to maintaining and improving the building. Additional grant funding has been received from the Parish Council, along with support from other organisations, helping to make the project possible. Work is due to commence in May 2026. While there may be some temporary disruption during the construction period, the committee will aim to keep the hall operational where it is safe to do so and will keep users informed of any changes.

Reporting Flooding Incidences

It is crucial to report any issues with flooding to the relevant authorities, in order that the matter is recorded.

thameswater.co.uk(Report a Problem):

Please report any issues with foul sewage
Overflows near water-courses.

FixMy Street.com:

To report any highway-related matters (e.g. blocked
drains, gulleys, water-courses).

Oxfordshire County Council:

<https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/emergency/report-flood/>
to report any flooding.

Turning Memories into Masterpieces: Resident Ron's Inspiring Art Exhibition at Floryn House Care Home

A talented resident at Floryn House Care Home in Yarnton recently fulfilled a lifelong dream by hosting his very own art exhibition within the home, welcoming residents, family members, staff and the local community for a heartfelt afternoon of admiring creativity and celebration.

On Wednesday 25th February, Ronald Mutton, resident of Floryn House Care Home since July 2025, proudly unveiled a collection of artwork inspired by his extraordinary travels around the world. From iconic landmarks to breathtaking landscapes, each piece told the story of a life rich in adventure, resilience and passion.

Ron, now aged 81, has explored some of the world's most remarkable destinations, but one adventure in particular profoundly shaped his journey. While skydiving in the Himalayan mountains, a malfunctioning parachute led to a serious collision with the mountainside, resulting in five weeks of hospital treatment in India. Following his recovery, Ron reflected deeply on the beauty he had witnessed across the globe and felt compelled to preserve those memories in a meaningful way.

Determined not to let those moments fade, he began creating artistic interpretations of the landscapes and sights that had moved him most. From the majestic Taj Mahal shimmering against the night sky to the tranquil waters of Lake Garda and scenes from the North of England, his paintings capture both the grandeur of the locations and the emotion behind them.



Recognising how important it was for Ron to share his work, the team at Floryn House Care Home organised a special exhibition within the home. The event was attended by fellow residents, relatives, staff members and guests from the local community, all eager to celebrate his talent. Refreshments were served, conversations flowed, and the home was filled with pride and admiration.



Ron said: 'This day was more special than I ever expected or dreamed of. I want to thank everyone who took their time to attend my very own Art Exhibition'.

Charlotte Whitford, Activities Manager at Floryn House Care Home, added: 'Supporting our residents to continue achieving their dreams is at the heart of everything we do. Seeing Ron share his incredible life experiences through his artwork and watching the joy it brought to everyone was truly special'.

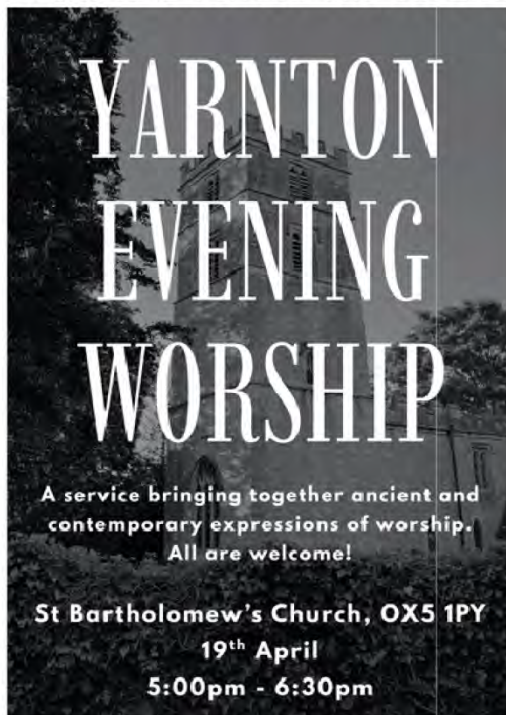
The event not only highlighted Ron's creativity and resilience but also demonstrated Floryn House Care Home's commitment to celebrating the individuality, talents and ongoing aspirations of every resident. By creating opportunities for residents to pursue lifelong passions, the home continues to foster a vibrant and supportive community where dreams can still become reality.

For further information contact Floryn House Care Home at:

Tel. [01865 259555](tel:01865259555), email: info@florynhousecare.co.uk, website: www.florynhousecare.co.uk

St Bartholomew's Yarnton

On 29th March **Holy Week** begins, running through the first week of April. Holy Week is a crucial, climactic week of the year for Christians. Our services maintain an almost real time remembrance of the final dramatic days of the life of Jesus of Nazareth. This begins on **Palm Sunday** recalling his entry into Jerusalem, and goes onto recall his overturning the tables in the Temple, his anointing at Bethany, and his betrayal by Judas Iscariot. On **Maundy Thursday** (2nd April) we recall him sharing the Last Supper with his followers and washing their feet, before he goes to his death on the cross on **Good Friday** (3rd April). Our special services remember and meditate on these extraordinary events, and lead to the wondrous



discovery of the empty tomb on **Easter Sunday** (5th April). Matthew's gospel recalls the words of the angel to the women who had visited the tomb at dawn that morning: *"Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay."* (Matt 28:5-6)

We warmly invite villagers to all our church services and events. Happy Easter!

Regular Services and Events

Sundays:

- 8.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
- 9.30am Benefice Online Service (St. Bartholomew's Facebook page)
- 11.00am Parish Sung Communion with Junior Church, followed by coffee
- 5.00pm *Yarnton Evening Worship (once a month, will continue 11th Jan 2026)*

Wednesdays:

- 9.30am Holy Communion
- 10.30am Little Sheep (term time)
for under 5s and their parents/grandparents/carers
- crafts, songs and a story -



Contact details:

Rev'd Oliver Petter
Rector, Benefice of Yarnton with Begbroke and Shipton on Cherwell
Address: 26 Church Lane, Yarnton, OX5 1PY
Email: vicar@ybsbenefice.org.uk
Tel: 01865 372714
Associate Vicar: Rev'd. Sue Spankie
Tel: 07868 855435
Email: revsue@ybsbenefice.org.uk
Website: www.ybsbenefice.org.uk
Facebook: @yarntonchurch

Holy Week & Easter @ St Bartholomew's Yarnton

HOLY WEEK SERVICES



Palm Sunday
Sun 29th Mar @ 11.00am



Maundy Thursday
Thurs 2nd April @ 7pm



Good Friday
Fri 3rd April @ 2pm



Easter Sunday
Sunday 5th April
@ 6am Dawn Vigil
@ 11am Holy Communion followed
by an Easter egg hunt!

**DRAW
NEAR**

 St Bartholomew's
Yarnton

Ascension Day

Thursday 14th May
@ 7pm

Benefice Service at St
Bartholomew's
followed by a party!

Pentecost Sunday

24th May @ 4pm

Please join us for
Village Prayers in St
Bartholomew's
followed by tea and cake

All Welcome!

DRAW NEARER THIS HOLY WEEK



Benefice Groups in April

Tuesday Evening Group

- From 7pm
- Begbroke Village Hall
- Food - Faith - Fellowship



Tuesday Lunchtime Group

- 12-30-1.30pm
- St Bartholomew's Parish Room
- Study and fellowship with coffee



*Both Tuesday groups will
finish in Holy Week (last
session for both will be
Tuesday 31st March)*

*A new study series will be
advertised after Easter*

Yarnton Village Hall

The hall comprises a large Main Hall with enclosed garden and a smaller Back Room with use of kitchenette. The hall is fully accessible - facilities include stage, kitchen, toilets with disabled facilities and car park. The hall is available for hire for meetings, training events, shows, lunches, clubs, sales, parties, etc.

The charges for hiring the rooms are per hour unless stated.

Main Hall

Village residents: £12.00

Non Village Residents: £14.00

Kitchen

£8.00 - per session

Back Room

Village residents: £11.00

Non Village Residents: £13.00

If having a bouncy castle/gaming van an extra charge of £6.00 is charged for electric.

A separate deposit of £100 is required when booking the hall.

For further information or to book the hall please contact Booking Secretary
yarntonvillagehall@gmail.com or 07948 722633

REEVES MEMORIALS

Independent Family Business
Established over 75 years

TOP QUALITY MEMORIALS

FREE COLOUR BROCHURE

FREE ESTIMATES

COMPETITIVE PRICES

REMOVAL OF MEMORIALS
FOR BURIALS

ADDED INSCRIPTIONS

RENOVATIONS AND REPAIRS



FOR A HELPFUL AND FRIENDLY SERVICE
PLEASE CALL **01865 251231**

Or EMAIL info@reevesmemorials.co.uk

OR VISIT OUR OFFICE AND SHOWROOM AT
147a MAGDALEN ROAD, OXFORD, OX4 1RL

www.reevesmemorials.co.uk

FOREST TOTS

Mondays
9.30 - 10.30

Join us for an
hour of Forest
School fun!

Suitable for 0-4 year olds.

bookwhen.com/stpeterscassington

Meet our
chickens!

Nature
inspired
crafts

Messy
play



St Peter's C.E. Primary School, Cassington OX29 4DN



Our March speaker was Malcolm Wells whose talk was entitled 'So Far So Good'. He entertained us with tales about his time in the Army as a medical assistant in the Gulf War, a cellist with the Army and the 16 years he spent with Canine Partners, a charity which trains assistance dogs. Malcom had many amusing tales, which included playing the wrong National Anthem at a Royal Banquet and being mistaken for a member of the Royal Household when receiving his MBE at Buckingham Palace. On 2nd April we will hear Dave Thornhill talk about 'Flooding and Climate Change'. Dave will speak about how climate change is affecting flooding in the UK and what it means for our communities. He will look at the different types of flooding we face and how planning, infrastructure and nature-based solutions can help us respond. Visitors £3 to include tea/coffee and biscuits.

The Walking Group went on an interesting historical walk in Oxford. We assembled at Gloucester Green Bus Station and walked up Walton Street, stopping for a quick look inside the beautiful St. Barnabus Church. Our next stop was the Schwarzman Centre for The Humanities, where we were able to see the amazing domed glass ceiling. The route then took us back into Oxford via Park Town and University Parks, which was carpeted in spring flowers.

Book Group 1 has just finished reading 'Leonard and Hungry Paul' by Ronan Hession. This was followed by a lively discussion about the book. Our book for March is 'Beautifully Ugly' by Alice Feeney.

The first Welsh Conversation Group will meet on 26th March at 10.30 a.m. If you are a Welsh speaker or would like to practice your Welsh, please get in touch with us. For more information, please refer to our website: www.woodstocku3a.uk.



The Needlework Group has been busy making blankets to send to The Hamblin Fistula Charity. This charity treats women who, due to lack of maternity health care in Ethiopia, are suffering from appalling childbirth injuries. Each woman is given a homemade blanket on arrival in hospital. They become a treasured source of comfort to the women. Three full sized blankets and two baby blankets have been sent off. The group continues to knit blankets.

Our monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at St. Hugh's Centre, Hensington Road, Woodstock, OX20 1JL, 2 p.m. for a 2.15 p.m. speaker. Our u3a branch is centred in Woodstock but welcomes people from the surrounding areas. Are you recently retired and looking for local social activities around interests you have? Our interest groups develop when someone is willing to run them - maybe you have something that you can offer? If so please make contact with us through the website: www.woodstocku3a.uk. We would be delighted to hear from you.

For more information on forth coming speakers, please visit our website: www.woodstocku3a.uk.



Design	Drawings, plans, planting schemes
Landscaping	Paving, fencing, paths, planting
Maintenance	Regular or one-off

*Transform your garden into something amazing.
We've got every aspect covered!*

t. 01865 884074 m. 07796 145476
www.bloomsgardens.co.uk



Is your child between 2 and 5 years old?

**We offer a safe & secure environment
for your child to learn & develop through play**

**Flexible hours - Term time only
Fully qualified & fun staff - Ofsted registered 'Good'**

Call Karen on 07594 652 291 to arrange a time to visit
or email karen@begbrokeplaygroup.org.uk for more
information

Registered Charity No. 1049116

**Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe,
OX29 8ET**

Sunday 19th April: 'In Steam' themed event 'Military Vehicles'. Bring the children. The North Oxforde & Cotswold Military Vehicle Trust and Home Guard display will be visiting, with others represented. Interested in Military? This is the event for you. The children will love the Jeeps and Army Trucks.

All machinery working and being demonstrated by our lovely volunteers. Combe Mill is a Late 19th Century Grade II Listed Water Mill on Blenheim Palace Estate by the River Evenlode, in its day the workshop for Blenheim Palace estate - not to be missed.

Tea Room open for refreshments; enjoy in the picnic area by the River Evenlode. Browse our Mini Market too, Gift Shop, Tombola, BBQ. Dogs Welcome. Free Parking. Adults £9.50. Seniors £8.50. Accompanied children under 15 FREE.

Open every Wednesday until the end of October for self-guided tours. Tea Room open.

Admission: Adults £6, Concessions £5, Accompanied children under 15 free.

Open: 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Enjoyed your visit? Why not enquire about volunteering?

We would love to hear from you.

Contact Combe Mill Society, tel. 01993 358694.

www.combemill.org

PELLMANS

Your Local Solicitors

- **Business and Business Contracts**
Contracts
- **Property**
Residential, Commercial & Agricultural
- **Wills, Probate and Trusts**
Tax Planning and Lasting Powers of Attorney

01865 884400

www.pellmans.co.uk

1 Abbey Street, Eynsham, Witney, OX29 4TB

Home visits available

Need help with your PC?

Fully qualified, locally based business is here to help with all your home and small business PC requirements, however trivial or complex they may be.

Why spend hours or even days trying to fix a problem when a fast and reliable expert service is literally around the corner?

A personal, professional service with a smile and at very reasonable rates. (Qualifications and ID provided on request)

Call: 01865 349057

Email: support@pc-help-4u.co.uk

Remote help option so no visit required

Satisfaction or your money back

- Free Callout & Diagnosis
- Laptops, Desktops & Tablets
- Home & Office Visits
- Secure Remote Help
- Monthly Cover Option
- Mac & PC Support
- Supply of New Machines
- Hardware Repairs/Upgrades
- Software Repairs/Upgrades
- Wireless Setups/Networking

plus

- New Installations
- Backup Solutions
- Antivirus & Security
- Web Hosting

Website: www.pc-help-4u.co.uk

YARNTON MANOR

Spring Open Day

FOOD . GAMES . TOURS

4th May | MONDAY | 10am - 2pm



FREE . ALL WELCOME

Bring your picnic lunch,
 For more information, scan here or visit yarntonmanor.org



Village Fete Raffle – tickets available from 1st April

As part of our fundraising for the Rutten Lane Play Park Renewal Project, raffle tickets for the Village Fete (Sunday 17th May) will be available from 1st April. Tickets cost £1 each, and every pound raised will go directly towards the renovation of our much-loved park.

Tickets can be purchased through local groups and at the Village Hall during regular sessions such as Band Practice, Lunch Club, Gardening Club and other hall activities. Please refer to the front page of Village News for the times and dates of these sessions. We will also confirm via Facebook when raffle tickets will be available at specific sessions.

We've already received some fantastic prizes from generous local businesses and organisations, including family passes, local vouchers, leisure experiences and wellbeing prizes. Additional donations are also expected over the coming weeks.

Volunteers needed – Sunday 17th May

We are still looking for volunteers to help on the day of the fete - whether that's setting up, helping on stalls, selling raffle tickets, or clearing away afterwards. Even an hour of your time would make a real difference and help ensure the day runs smoothly.

If you're able to help, please get in touch at yarntonparkrenewal@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support. Every ticket bought and every offer of help brings us closer to delivering meaningful improvements to our park for the whole community.

WINDOW DESIGN INTERIORS

CURTAINS AND BLINDS



- ◆ Made to Measure blinds and curtains
- ◆ Fabrics and Accessories
- ◆ Call to book home consultations
- ◆ Book online for appointments to the showroom in Chipping Norton

01993 870606

WWW.WINDOWDESIGNINTERIORS.CO.UK
 COMPLETE SERVICE FROM MEASUREMENT THROUGH TO FITTING



SWD
Smart Alarms & CCTV



- Smart Intrusion Alarms.
- Video Surveillance (CCTV).
- Video Doorbells.
- Free Security Consultations.
- Tel: 01865 965319
- Web: www.swdsecure.co.uk
- Email: enquiries@swdsecure.co.uk

KEY MEDICAL PRACTICE
 (Yarnton Surgery)

163 Rutten Lane, Yarnton
 OX5 1LT

Telephone 01865 379345

www.keymedicalpractice.co.uk

OSTEOPATH



Anita Watson BSc (Hons) Ost.
4 Exeter Road, Kidlington, OX5 2DY.

Member of the GOC (General Osteopathic Council)
since 1996

Osteopathy can help with the relief of:

- Lower back pain/Sciatica
- Neck and shoulder tension/headaches
- Arthritic pain
- Sports injuries and RSI
- Hip/Knee/Ankle pain
- Frozen shoulder/Tennis elbow
- Stress/Anxiety/Fatigue



YOGA CLASSES

Member of the IYA (Iyengar Yoga Association)
since 2006

One-to-one or small group classes available (4 max.)

- Improves mobility, strength and balance
- Improves posture and alignment
- Promotes well being, increased energy and relaxation
- Use of breathing and resting poses soothes the nerves and calms the mind.

07970 527733

anitawatson111@hotmail.co.uk

www.anitawatson.co.uk

Central Yarnton Bridge Club

NEW FRIENDLY BRIDGE GAME
FOR RELATIVE BEGINNERS

AT
YARNTON VILLAGE HALL
The Paddocks
Yarnton
OX5 2E1

Tuesday Mornings
9:30 am seated FOR 10 am

Yarnton Bridge Club is now able to offer a friendly game for Bridge Players who have a fair knowledge of the game and would like to improve their play. We run 12 boards of supervised play with help and guidance from an experienced teacher. No partner needed.

Coffee from 9:30 am - Bridge 10am to 12:00
Cost £3.50 each session
Large Free Car Park

Questions/Queries Please Contact
Jonathan on 07394 994151
johnprice0715@gmail.com

Woodstock Methodist Church, Oxford Street, Woodstock Kidlington Methodist Church, Oxford Road, Kidlington

Minister: Rev. Paul Carter, tel. 01865 373958, Email: paul.carter@oxfordmethodists.org.uk

Local Contact Woodstock: Mrs Sue Beuzeval, tel. 01865 849696, Email: sue.beuzeval@woodstockmethodists.org.uk

Local Contact Kidlington: Mel Snelling, mel.snelling@kidlingtonmethodists.org.uk

There are no Methodist churches in Yarnton, but you will find one in both Woodstock and Kidlington. Details of forthcoming services are below, but there are also various midweek activities, details of which can be found on the appropriate website.

Everyone is welcome to come and join us at any time.

Services in April

'Local Arrangement' invariably means instead of a 'live' preacher you can watch a pre-recorded service on screen at church.

Go to oxfordmethodists.org.uk/worship.html where details can be found of various recorded services

Woodstock

5 th	10.30 a.m.	Easter Day – Sue Barratt
12 th	10.30 a.m.	'Easter Songs of Praise' Local Church Group
19 th	10.30 a.m.	Paul Rosentall
26 th	10.30 a.m.	Alistair Jackson

We also have a Junior Church which meets every week at 10.30 a.m. and ranges in age from two to early teens. The first part of the morning is shared with adults in church before we then go round to the church hall to share in our own activities. We are always delighted to see new members, whether with or without their parents!

Kidlington

5 th	10 a.m.	Easter Day - Paul Spray
12 th	10 a.m.	Graeme Thompson
19 th	10 a.m.	Rev. Paul Carter <i>Holy Communion</i>
26 th	10 a.m.	Local Church Group

Every Thursday we meet at 10.00 a.m. for a short informal time of prayer followed by coffee. On the third Thursday of the month, this incorporates a celebration of communion. All Welcome!

The Kidlington church also runs a Junior Church and crèche on Sunday mornings.

Very well played – Yarnton Band



The band at Cokethorpe School Saturday 28th February – photo Alex Stroud

Over the weekend more than 1000 players in 41 bands took part in the Oxfordshire and District Brass Bands Association Winter Contest; the band travelling furthest was the Tongwynlais Band from Wales.

When we played our test piece, 'Music for Jock Tamson', the reporter from *British Bandsman* wrote: 'What a great piece of music and very well played by the band, sounded like you enjoyed the piece which is a big plus....good Euphonium (Matilda Hawes).....Brilliant flugel solo (Daniel Pye)....Good full sound from the lower band....Well done to all.'

Sadly, we didn't win a cup, but the adjudicator wrote: 'Confident start....full sound as required....well done Basses.....I note good musical style throughout.' Who won our section? Hook Norton Band, sponsored by the brewery and almost wholly mature, older players when compared with Yarnton!

Future band events include Sunday 12th April, the Band's solo contest at Long Hanborough Methodist Church 2 p.m.; Sunday 26th April, Oxfordshire & District Brass Festival featuring solos, duets and other ensembles; Saturday 2nd May 2 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. Red Lion Yarnton.

Peter Hewis

AW

ELECTRICAL SERVICES

DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL

Rewires	
Installations	Andy Webb
Extensions	Part P / Elecsa
Additions	
Lights	
Sockets	T: 01865 377171
Free Quotations	M: 07931 127892

Email: andywebb1346@btinternet.com

WOODSTOCK BOWLS CLUB

CADOGAN PARK,
WOODSTOCK,
OXFORDSHIRE,
OX20 1UW

COME ALONG AND TRY BOWLS

Free coaching and equipment available

OPEN DAY

Sunday 17th May
10am - 4pm
(Pop along at anytime)

BBQ from 12pm to 2pm

Why should you come along?

- Great way to meet new people, a club with over 90 members
- Accessible game for all ages and abilities
- Refreshments available through the day

www.woodstockbowls.co.uk 01993 812325 Woodstock Bowls Club

Can ChatGPT write your Will?

The answer, technically speaking, is yes. But then again, technically speaking, my toaster can be used to warm socks. That doesn't mean it's a good idea. You see, ChatGPT (a form of Artificial Intelligence - in short 'AI') is a marvel of modern engineering - it can produce text that looks convincing, sounds authoritative, and might even pass muster at a glance. But when it comes to something as legally delicate as your Will, appearances are not enough. In fact, they're dangerously misleading.

The Legal Landscape

Under English law, a valid Will must meet certain formalities. These are not optional. They are not 'guidelines' or 'best practices'. They are rules. And if you break them, your Will could be as useful as a chocolate teapot. For starters, the Will must be signed and witnessed correctly. That means two independent witnesses, present at the same time, watching you sign the document. AI cannot supervise your signing, nor can it verify whether or not your cousin Nigel shouldn't act as your witness. Then there's clarity of intent. Your Will must make it abundantly clear what you want to happen to your estate. If it's ambiguous - say, you leave 'my house' to someone, but you own three - then you're inviting a family feud worthy of a soap opera. AI, for all its cleverness, doesn't know your life. It doesn't know your assets, your relationships, or the law's fondness for precision. It guesses. And guessing is not a good legal strategy.

The Risks

Let's look at the risks of using ChatGPT to write your Will. They are many, and they are serious.

1. Omissions and ambiguity: AI might forget to include your pension or your holiday home in Devon. It might muddle your intentions or misinterpret your instructions. The result? Confusion, disputes, and possibly costly litigation.
2. Misleading confidence: ChatGPT has a habit of sounding very sure of itself. It will tell you things with the confidence of a pub know-it-all, even when it's completely wrong. And unless you're a solicitor, you will not spot the errors.
3. Invalid signing: As mentioned, AI cannot witness your signature or make sure your Will is executed properly. This alone can render the Will invalid.
4. Jurisdictional errors: ChatGPT is trained on global data. It might default to American law, or Canadian law, or Martian law for all we know. Unless you're paying close attention, you could end up with a Will that's legally meaningless in the UK.
5. No safety net: If your AI-generated will goes wrong, there's no one to blame. No professional indemnity insurance. No regulatory body. Just you, your grieving relatives, and a costly legal mess.

When AI might be useful (but only just)

Now, I'm not saying AI is entirely useless. That would be unfair. It can be helpful in certain limited circumstances.

1. If you're trying to understand basic legal terminology, AI can explain things in plain English. It's like having a friendly paralegal who never sleeps.
2. If you want to explore your options before speaking to a solicitor, AI can help you think things through. It's a bit like sketching out a route before you set off on a long drive.

But - and this is a big but - AI should never be your sole source of legal advice.

When you absolutely must see a Solicitor

There are times when DIY simply won't cut it. If any of the following apply to you, put down the chatbot and pick up the phone:

1. You own property or assets in more than one country.
2. You have children, dependants, or vulnerable beneficiaries.
3. You're divorced, separated, or part of a blended family.
4. You want to exclude someone from your Will (brace yourself).
5. You're trying to minimise inheritance tax.
6. You're worried about your Will being challenged.

Solicitors are trained to spot problems before they arise. They draft watertight clauses. They ensure proper execution. And crucially, they're regulated and insured. If something goes wrong, you have recourse.

Final Thoughts: Don't leave it to chance

ChatGPT is a clever bit of kit. It can explain things, simulate conversations, and even write a passable sonnet. But it cannot replace a solicitor. Not for something as important as a Will. For most people, especially those with anything more complex than a goldfish and a savings account, seeing a solicitor is the safest, most cost-effective way to ensure your wishes are honoured.

Anna Boucher is an inheritance tax, wills and probate specialist solicitor at The Burnside Partnership (Combe office). Each month, Anna will share helpful tips on inheritance law, mixing humour with practical advice. If you have any followup questions, you can email her at anna.boucher@theburnsidepartnership.com or call the Combe office on 01865 987781 and ask for her secretary, Sarah.





YARNTON GARDENING CLUB

invites you to a

GRAND PLANT SALE

Saturday 23rd May 2026

Yarnton Village Hall, 2.30 p.m.

Plants of many types and varieties including vegetables, shrubs, house plants, perennials, bedding, annuals, etc.

Plus home-made cakes and produce

Light refreshments.

For further details tel. 372637

TBP

**THE BURNSIDE
PARTNERSHIP**

Specialist Private Client Lawyers &
Tax professionals

Trusted advisors to individuals and their families

We are based in Combe, Oxfordshire, but also have offices in London and the Thames Valley.

We provide specialist advice on Wills, inheritance tax planning, probates, powers of attorney and generally protecting your assets. Our tax specialists are also here to help with your personal tax compliance.



We are always happy to offer a free initial chat.

For more information, please call our Combe office on 01865 987781, visit www.theburnsidepartnership.com or email anna.boucher@theburnsidepartnership.com



"The team is superbly put together, showing professionalism and personality in equal measure"
Legal 500, 2024

Discover the wildlife on your doorstep: Join TVERC's City Nature Challenge and Noticing Nature events

Did you know that wildlife is all around us: even in our villages, parks, and gardens? This spring and summer, Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC), which collects and shares wildlife information for Oxfordshire and Berkshire, is inviting people across Oxfordshire, including Yarnton, to take a closer look at the nature on their doorstep through two free initiatives: the [City Nature Challenge 2026](#) and the [Noticing Nature events programme](#).

City Nature Challenge 2026: 24th – 27th April

The [City Nature Challenge](#) is a global community science event that encourages people to record wildlife over a four-day period. Taking place from Friday 24th to Monday 27th April, the challenge brings together hundreds of cities and their surrounding areas worldwide to celebrate nature and contribute valuable data to biodiversity research.

Participants simply use the free [iNaturalist](#) app or website to photograph and record wild plants, animals, fungi, or signs of wildlife they spot while out walking, cycling, or even relaxing in their garden. Every observation helps build a clearer picture of local wildlife and supports conservation efforts both locally and globally.

This year, TVERC is hosting the [City Nature Challenge](#) across Oxfordshire and Berkshire for the fourth year running, with an increased focus on recording high-quality, wild observations that can be used by scientists and decision-makers. Whether you're an experienced wildlife recorder or completely new, everyone is welcome to take part.

Noticing Nature events

Alongside the [City Nature Challenge](#), TVERC is also running a series of free [Noticing Nature](#) events throughout 2026. These relaxed, guided sessions are designed to help people slow down, tune in to their surroundings, and build confidence in noticing and identifying wildlife.

Led by TVERC's biodiversity officers in collaboration with local volunteers, the events take place at a variety of green spaces across Oxfordshire, from meadows and commons to nature reserves. You might find yourself listening for birdsong, spotting wildflowers, or learning to recognise the signs animals leave behind.

[Noticing Nature](#) events are suitable for adults, but families are welcome, and no prior knowledge is needed. Research shows that spending time connecting with nature can benefit both mental and physical wellbeing, making these sessions a great way to enjoy the outdoors while learning something new.

The [Noticing Nature](#) programme is free to attend, thanks to support from The National Lottery Community Fund's [WISH Partnership](#), but booking is required as places are limited.

Get Involved

Whether you fancy a one-off wildlife challenge in April or a gentle guided walk later in the year, these events offer a welcoming way to engage with nature and contribute to a better understanding of our local environment.

To find out more about the [City Nature Challenge](#) or to book a [Noticing Nature event](#), visit TVERC's website for full details and upcoming dates.

You might be surprised by just how much nature you can find in Yarnton and beyond, all it takes is stopping to notice.

Jerrams Brothers Funeral Directors



SAFE IN OUR HANDS

When someone you love dies . . .
its reassuring to know there's
someone you can trust.

*Serving families in Oxfordshire for over
50 years and with a Funeral Director
(Nicholas Tonks) living in Yarnton
available for home visits.*

www.jerramsbrothers.co.uk

WOODSTOCK
01993 811491

KIDLINGTON
01865 374444



*All aspects of roofing and
guttering work undertaken*

Slates • Tiles • Flat Roofs
Chimneys • Valleys • Leadwork
Moss Clearance
General Repointing
uPVC Fascias • Soffits • Gutters

Advice and estimates free

Freephone: 0800 955 5063 Mobile: 07817 792194



Yarnton W.I.

Dear Neighbours.

Once again we remain optimistic for the warm sunshine and Spring weather ahead.

I have a short story to tell. I have been told a number of times that Yarnton is known for being a friendly village. Yes, when I walk around the village most people greet me. When I first moved here, I thought people had mistaken me for someone they knew but when children did so as well, I was reassured that this was just a friendly place to live. A few weeks ago after quite rainy weather, I was crossing the road with puddles either side and cars actually stopped rather than splash me! Now that certainly proves the point. How lucky we are to live here.

This friendly attitude extends to the clubs in the village, certainly the W.I. It's what we're known for! I am proud to say that all of the members of our committee and officers were re-elected to serve for another year, including myself for a seventh term. I am beyond grateful for this honour. The meeting went well and there are many exciting plans ahead for the coming year.

We hope you will join us in April to take part in our meeting with Thea Rogers, who will instruct us and demonstrate Latin Style dance which we will be able to do seated. Watch out for fancy leg movements - great for blood flow and circulation!

I am busy working on our next post box topper as are members who are knitting figures to affix on top. I won't tell you the subject just yet, but it will be great fun.

I am looking forward to attending the Annual Meeting for Oxfordshire, along with our Secretary Lou at the end of March, with two great speakers. And also the Cherwell group Spring meeting in mid-April with a speaker telling us about unusual English customs. I will look forward to hearing about any I missed when I moved here from New York many years ago.

There are so many wonderful things to look forward to this Spring. I will continue to share them with you. Come and visit us sometime!

Judy Blake, President

Aquarius Plumbing

Tel: 01865 513058. Mob: 07984 121743

Email: grahambullock2001@yahoo.co.uk

Free estimates

No job too small

Domestic Plumbing Work

Bathroom and Kitchen refits

Wall Tiling – Floor Tiling – Loft Insulation

Decorating

Environmentally friendly upgrades

MILAN

Fencing and Landscaping Services

Based in West Oxford and family run, we can provide for your Fencing and Landscaping needs

Fencing Decking Landscaping
Paths Patios Garden Walls
Sheds Garden Services Bin Stores

Installation Maintenance and Repair

For a no obligation quote call Alan on
01865 421273 07565564349

Visit our [yell.com](http://www.yell.com) page to hear what our customers say about us



www.milanoxford.co.uk



MOSSINATOR®
ROOF CLEANING SYSTEMS



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

Kidlington & District Historical Society

Our next meeting will be on April 28th, when we have a talk about how John (a founding baby) found his mother. The rest of the story from John Caldecott.

The meeting is held at Kidlington Baptist Church, OX5 2DS. Doors open 7.30 p.m. with meetings starting at 7.50 p.m. Visitors £5. Ample car parking.



Sophie Clarke
DRAMA TUTORING

- ★ Drama School
- ★ Public Speaking
- ★ Auditions
- ★ Competitions
- ★ GCSE/A Level Drama
- ★ School Productions
- ★ Confidence
- ★ Communication Skills
- ★ Amateur Dramatic Productions
- ★ Professional Coaching
- ★ and...for fun!

Please get in touch for more info and a free 15 minute online lesson Suitable for ages 8 years and above

 @sophieclarkedrama
E: sophieclarkedrama@outlook.com
T: 0777 1777 890



BLENHEIM
PLUMBING & HEATING
LTD.

Emergency Call Outs

Boiler Services and Repairs

Boiler Upgrades

Full Bathroom & Kitchen Installations

All General Plumbing

Hot Water and Heating Repairs

 **07535256953** Gas Safe No: 651296
 **Blenheimplumbing@gmail.com**



 **travel counsellors**

Holiday dreams, expertly arranged. Where to next?

Based in Yarnton, I create holidays your way: tailor-made escapes, unforgettable cruises, or simply a much-needed break. Whatever you imagine, I can arrange - always with personal care and outstanding protection from Travel Counsellors.

Charlotte Helstrom

GOLD TRAVEL COUNSELLOR

01865 989130
charlotte.helstrom@mytc.com
travelcounsellors.com/charlotte.helstrom



 **Trustpilot**


New flood wardens are sought to be the eyes and ears of Yarnton

An appeal has been issued for volunteers in Yarnton to help their communities understand flood risks and responsibilities by becoming flood wardens. Oxfordshire County Council has extended its flood warden scheme to cover the whole county following successful pilot projects in Witney, Ascott-under-Wychwood, Abingdon and Sunningwell. There is no set number of hours required, and flood wardens can volunteer according to their own schedule. Councillor Judy Roberts, Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Place, Environment and Climate Action, said: 'Flood wardens are our eyes and ears on the ground and report things like blocked ditches and drains so that we can resolve these issues before a flood event can occur. As extreme weather becomes a more common occurrence, their role becomes so much more important. We are so grateful to all the county's volunteers, whose hard work and local knowledge does so much to keep their communities safe. I would like to thank our existing flood wardens for their efforts and invite more people to join them in improving the situation in the places where they live.'

Flood wardens are members of the local community. They can be individuals, representatives of the Parish Council or existing community resilience volunteers, highway wardens or police volunteers.

The council will support flood wardens in their role and provide the necessary training. All flood wardens undergo an informal one-hour call prior to signing the agreement, to help them understand the role in more detail.

Anyone wanting to become a flood warden can read more and sign up online through the Oxfordshire Flood Toolkit here: <https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/flood-wardens/>

Marc Evans, Communications and Media Officer, Oxfordshire County Council

Note from Dave Thornhill, from Yarnton's Flood Defence Group: 'I'm already signed up to the flood warden scheme, but would welcome any other volunteers to come forward to help.'



April

If 'April showers bring May flowers', then the Manor gardens are well ahead of schedule! It's a stunning physical reminder of new life and beauty that, as Christians, we particularly celebrate at Easter and we're looking forward to sharing it with you.

The 4,000 bulbs planted over the autumn and winter are carpeting the Library garden in delicate spots of purple and yellow - though now they're up we can see clearly the places we missed! It's the start of a succession of blooms across the site - one that we hope you'll be able to come and enjoy with us on our **Spring Open Day on May 4th** - see the save the date info in this month's Yarnton News, and watch this space for more info next month.

Before then, we'd like to wish you a very happy Easter and let you know that we're praying for you and every resident of Yarnton village in this season of sun, rain and new life.

Want to know more? Sign up for our newsletter by using the QR code or check out our new website: yarntonmanor.org



Floryn House Care Home celebrates inclusion in Knight Frank Luxury Care Home Guide 2026

Floryn House Care Home is proud to announce its successful inclusion in the prestigious Knight Frank Luxury Care Home Guide 2026, published by Knight Frank.

Following a highly competitive nomination process, Floryn House Care Home has been recognised among the UK's top 100 best-in-class care homes, selected for excellence in setting, design, and hospitality.

The 2026 edition of the Guide attracted an exceptional standard of entries, representing an impressive £3.5 billion in assets. With a high number of submissions from outstanding care homes across the country, competition was fierce. Inclusion in this sought-after publication reflects the dedication, vision, and commitment to quality demonstrated by Floryn House and its team.

The purpose-built home has been thoughtfully designed to combine outstanding architectural quality with a warm, welcoming environment. The collaboration has resulted in a home that not only meets the highest standards of care but also offers exceptional comfort, style, and hospitality for residents.

This achievement marks a significant milestone and reinforces Floryn House Care Home's ongoing commitment to excellence, innovation, and resident wellbeing.

For more information on Floryn House Care Home visit www.florynhousecare.co.uk

DIRTY CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY, RUGS



Most carpets dry within the hour

Unbeatable results, removes almost all spots & stains

call

GRIMEBUSTERS

01993 868924 01865 726983

www.grimebusters.co.uk

Gas Heating & Service

Specialise in:

- **Commercial and Domestic Boiler Service, Maintenance and Repair**
- **Boiler/Warm air/Water heater/Gas proving**

For a free and friendly quote contact:
Joe McEneaney
Mobile: 07808 608 970
Email: ghsoxford@gmail.com
Gas Safe No: 532113



532113



Real lawns for real lives

We provide a premium lawn care experience.

We seed them, feed them, even control the weeds. So, you don't have to.

For a FREE lawn analysis visit greenthumb.co.uk or contact our local team.

Banbury branch

Call 01869 345333 Email banbury@greenthumb.co.uk

itv1 *Alan Titchmarsh's* **GARDENING CLUB** Brought to you by **GreenThumb** LAWN TREATMENT SERVICE



Yarnton Gardening Club

We were very sad to hear of the death in March of Hannah Melhuish. Along with her husband Graham, Hannah had been a member of the Club since it started in 1994, and was always happy to help out at events whenever asked. She was also a long-standing member of the W.I. She was a good friend to many of us and will be very much missed. Our thoughts are with Graham and the family.

Our talk this month is from Katharine Woods and is entitled 'Japanese Gardens and Cherry Blossom' – a sure sign of Spring. We meet in the Village Hall on Thursday 19th at 7.30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome (£5).

Dates for your diary: Our first outing of the year is on Tuesday 12th May, to Foxington at Britwell Salome, near Watlington, travelling by cars to arrive at 2.30 p.m. We will have a guided tour of the garden, followed by tea and homemade cakes. The cost will be £11 for members and £13 for non-members, and there will be a list at the meeting for you to sign up.

Plant Sale: Our annual Plant Sale this year is on Saturday 23rd May in the Village Hall – at a different time this year of **2.30 p.m.** So make a note of the date and time, and when you're sowing seeds or splitting plants in your gardens, then please bring any spares along for sale. As well as lots of plants, we shall have a cake stall, and we hope to offer scones with jam and cream as well as tea/coffee and biscuits. We would be grateful for offers of help from members, either on the stalls or to serve the refreshments.

Village Fete, 17th May. We are making plans to have a stall at the Fete, so look out for more details next month.

The Club now has a Facebook page, Yarnton Gardening Club, which one of our new committee members, David Edwardson, has kindly set up for us. So take a look at it for news of meetings, outings, and other information.

Ruth Astall

HOLIDAY ARK DOG WALKING AND PET SITTING SERVICES

INSURED AND POLICE CHECKED DOG WALKING AND PET CARE SERVICES

Dog walking and puppy visits - Rabbit and Guinea Pig Boarding using RSPCA 5ft and 6ft hutches - Hamster, gerbil and small bird boarding - Cat feeding and home care service - Pet taxi

www.holidayark.co.uk

T: 01865 842435, M: 07596109489

Family run, based in Kidlington, and your pet and home will be cared for as if they were our own by trustworthy and caring pet lovers and owners.

Improving Your Home Part 8. Rear Extensions

Rear extensions are a practical way to add value to a home and are generally more cost-effective than moving when factoring in stamp duty, legal fees and moving costs. A ground floor extension can turn a cramped ground floor into modern, open-plan living space, typically a kitchen-diner, whilst a 2-storey extension can add a bedroom and more. Because extensions add floor area, it targets the factor buyers value most after location, which is size.

Single-storey rear extensions fall under Permitted Development rights, although you will need a Lawful Development Certificate confirming that the proposed extension complies with Permitted Development guidelines. Detached houses can extend up to 4 metres beyond the rear wall under permitted development, while terraced and semi-detached properties are limited to 3 metres. For single-storey extensions the limits are increased to 8 metres if a detached house and 6 metres for any other house; a Prior Approval: Larger Home Extension application is required. The extension must not exceed 50% of the original property's surrounding land area. Extensions must not exceed the height of the original roof and should use materials that harmonise with the existing structure. These regulations exist to protect neighbourhood character while enabling reasonable development.

Building Regulations approval will also be required. Structural elements require load-bearing calculations, and foundations and roof structures to comply with Building Regs. Steel beams are often needed to create open spaces. Insulation standards require extensions to achieve high levels of insulation and energy performance, potentially improving the overall property's EPC rating. This not only reduces running costs but enhances market appeal as energy efficiency becomes increasingly important to buyers.

Successful rear extensions should harmonise well with the existing property, maintaining proportional relationships and architectural coherence. Consider the orientation for natural light optimisation, particularly for kitchen and dining areas that could benefit from morning and afternoon sunshine. Open-plan designs combine kitchen, dining, and living areas to create flexible family spaces, with large glazed openings onto the garden. Built-in storage, adequate provision for modern technology, electric vehicle charging provision and renewable energy integration help to future-proof the property. Simple single-storey extensions can typically take 8-16 weeks once work begins, while two-storey extensions can take 16-26 weeks.

Build costs are calculated by the square metre, and current guidance from Homebuilding & Renovating suggests £2,200-£2,500/m² (ex VAT) for a straightforward single-storey extension. High-spec projects can run to £3,000+ per m². 2-storey extensions costs per square metre are usually lower because you're spreading the cost of foundations and roof over twice the floor area. However a 2-storey extension can add twice as much space for 50-70% more cost than a single-storey extension, according to SDL Property Auctions. For design and approvals allow typically 5-15% of the build cost depending on scope and add a 10-12.5% contingency for unexpected costs. The ROI for a rear kitchen-diner extensions can be 10-15% when well executed; more if they enable a superior layout or an extra bedroom in a 2-storey scheme, according to Ideal Home, but can be more in higher-value locations or where the design transforms usability. If you can stretch the budget, a 2-storey extension is the better option, providing additional space and a better return. However before committing check with local estate agents for before/after comparables, then run a calculation of projected sale value - (current value + all-in project cost). If the margin isn't comfortably positive and you're not valuing the lifestyle benefit, then rethink the scope or spec.

Jan Liberadzki BA Arch (Hons), MSc, JLDA

JLDA building design

- ✓ Feasibility & Costings
- ✓ Building Regulations
- ✓ New Builds & Extensions
- ✓ Planning Applications
- ✓ Construction Drawings
- ✓ Internal Alterations

"JLDA has done 3 designs for us. The first one has transformed our lives. The work was of the highest quality and the level of service excellent." ★★★★★

Call now for a
Free Consultation: 01869 349825

Email: design@jlida.co.uk

Visit: www.jlida.co.uk

Helping You Create a Better Home

PROBLEM FEET?!

NAIL CUTTING, CORNS, CALLOUSES.
HARD/DRY SKIN. FOOT MASSAGE.

TREATMENT IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME!

Sharon Davies MCFHP/MAFHP
tel. 07941 843353

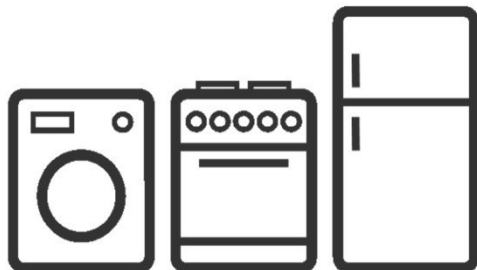
OVER 21 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

REGISTERED MEMBER OF THE BRITISH

ASSOCIATION OF FOOT HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

TALMAGE'S

Domestic Appliances



Repair Deliver Install



We have moved !

Unit 8 Wharf Farm, Eynsham Road,
Cassington, Oxford, OX29 4DB



01865 880488

OxfordAppliances.co.uk



Yarnton Netball Club

The Yarnton Netball club is continuously developing squads in many age-groups. Whilst the aim is for competitive netball to play in the Oxfordshire League, local weekly training is also an opportunity to develop confidence and skills.

As the winter season concludes our Yarnton Emeralds and Yarnton Diamonds and U19s have done well, especially considering the dire weather conditions outdoors. The junior squads of U15, U13 and U11 also made good progress. Congratulations to all players and support personnel.

Tuesdays at Rutten Lane, Yarnton is the seniors training time, 7.30 p.m. until 9 p.m., with school years 10-13 preceding at 6.15 p.m. to 7.15 p.m. Whilst we are appreciative of the floodlit facility in Yarnton which has met our needs over the past 20 years, we are now very much in need of a 2nd adjacent netball court. Is there facility development for netball in all the planning energy that is going on around us?

The younger age groups meet on Wednesday evenings – school years 4-6 are 3.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m., with years 7-9 at 4.40 p.m. - 5.40 p.m. For updated information on all age-groups please make contact: yarntonnetballclub@outlook.com or yarntonyouthnetball@gmail.com or via Facebook.

Local recreational netball is just fun and brilliant to be involved in – do get in touch.

The Netball Super-league (NSL) runs from March to the finals on 20th June, with matches most weekends showing on SKY and YouTube. Our own Oxfordshire Talent Pathways link into Loughborough Lightning who were the winners of the Netball Super-cup in February; this was the opening one-day Soft and Gentle Tournament which is played prior to the commencement of the NSL. Will the Lightnings retain their dominance – time to turn up to support and watch the play? Tickets through England Netball website.

The Commonwealth Games is in Glasgow this July/August. Netball settled into these Games a few decades back and the excitement of taking gold in 2018 still resonates.

World Netball and Australia are leading the bid to get netball included in the Olympics which will be hosted by Brisbane in 2032 – please link to <https://netball.sport/back-the-bid/> to pledge your voice to the bid. England Roses have just moved up to 3rd place in the World Rankings behind Australia and New Zealand, with Jamaica 4th. What will this Commonwealth Games bring? The excitement will build.

Sue Blackshaw – Yarnton Netball Club



Greens Funeral Services

Established 1866

A family owned and managed business.

*With kindness at the heart of
our care for 150 years.*

6 Mill Street, Eynsham OX29 4JS

01865 880837

32 Corn Street, Witney OX28 6BL

01993 776486

mail@greensfunerals.co.uk

www.greensfunerals.co.uk





Ridentes



New Patient Dental Consultation Offer

Offer Details - New patient dental consultation for **£55.00** (usual price £75.00)

- Includes a comprehensive dental health check and oral assessment
- X-rays are included only if clinically necessary

Eligibility - Offer only valid for new patients aged 18 and over who have not previously registered at the practice

Booking Conditions -

- Offer applies to initial consultation only and does not include additional treatment
- Cannot be combined with other offers or discount
- Non-transferable and not redeemable for cash or other services

Additional Treatment - If further treatment is required, a separate treatment plan and cost estimate will be provided

Cancellation Policy - Standard cancellation terms apply. Missed appointments or late cancellations may include a failed to attend charge

Right to Amend or Withdraw - The practice reserves the right to amend or withdraw this offer at any time without prior notice

Services Available

- General Dentistry
- Orthodontics
- Endodontics
- Implants
- Periodontics
- Facial Aesthetics
- Teeth Whitening
- Hygiene Treatments

13, High Street, Kidlington, OX5 2DH



01865 370375



reception@ridentes.com



www.ridentes.com

YARNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: clerk@yarnton-pc.gov.uk, telephone: 01865 378476, website: www.yarnton-pc.gov.uk

All correspondence sent by letter or email to the Parish Council must include the sender's name, address and telephone number. The Parish Council is unable to discuss correspondence received without these details. Please note that the Parish Council office is open to residents by appointment only as the office is not staffed full-time.

Parish Council Chairman:

Mike Groves: mike.groves@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Vice-Chairman:

Fiona Mawson: fiona.mawson@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

Other Parish Council Members:

Debbie Behan: debbie.behan@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

Amir Kianzad: amir.kianzad@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

Ian Middleton: ian.middleton@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

Samuel Smith: samuel.smith@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

Joe McEaney: joe.mceaney@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

Lesley McLean: lesley.mclean@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

Dorothy Walker: dorothy.walker@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer:

David Thornhill: clerk@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

District Councillors:

Jean Conway: jean.conway@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Lesley McLean: lesley.mclean@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Dorothy Walker: dorothy.walker@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

County Councillor:

Lesley McLean: lesley.mclean@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Planning:

Any members of the public who wish to comment on or object to any of the following planning applications can either contact Yarnton Parish Council via the Clerk's office or Cherwell District Council via the planning portal here:

<https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/>

Planning applications:

Application No.: 26/00267/CLUE. Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Development for creation of a pond. Location: Minnis Farm, Woodstock Road, Yarnton, OX5 1PQ.

Parish Councillors:

There is a vacancy for one Parish Councillor. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, please either contact the Parish Clerk for details or attend the next Parish Council meeting.

Future meetings:

The Chair's Annual Parish Meeting of the Electorate will be held on 22nd April at 6.30 p.m. in the back room at Yarnton Village Hall. Residents are most welcome to attend this meeting and will be able to speak to members of the Council on an informal basis. Refreshments will be provided.

The next ordinary Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday, 8th April at 6.30 p.m. in the back room at Yarnton Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings for all or part of the meeting. Members of the public who wish to speak need to contact the Clerk 7 days in advance of the meeting, giving notice of what they wish to say; any person will be limited to 5 minutes, and the total time for public contributions is limited to 15 minutes. Members of the public wishing to speak on any other matter or to be involved in the Councillors' general discussion may only do so at the discretion of the Chairman.

Chris Lord

Building & Property Maintenance

☎ 07795 957 238

✉ clord07795@gmail.com



No job too small!

- Bricklaying
- Plastering
- Painting
- Decking
- Digger driving
- Patios
- Landscaping
- Log sheds
- Raised flower beds
- Driveways
- General property maintenance
- General builder
- Small extensions
- And much more

Begbroke Bowls Club



A New Year and looking forward to another outdoor season!

Open Day – Open Day – Open Day – Open Day Saturday 26th April from 2 p.m.



Whether you're completely new to bowls or already an experienced player, you're warmly invited to our club's Open Day. Come along, have a relaxed roll-up, and enjoy friendly coaching with a selection of bowls available. Everyone is welcome, and season's membership is available if you'd like to join. This year's fixtures, both home and away, will be published soon. The bar will be open on our Bowls Open Day, so it's a great chance to meet people and enjoy the club atmosphere.

If you can't make the Open Day, throughout the season we also run an informal Friday roll-ups from 6 p.m. onwards, perfect for trying bowls or keeping your hand in.

Please check out the bowls website for further information

<http://begbrokebowlsclub.co.uk>

Mobile Hairdresser

Salon service in the comfort of your own home

Gents	Dry Cut	£12
Ladies	Wet Cut	£20
	Wash & Blow Dry	£18
	Shampoo & Set	£18
	Cut & Blow Dry	£32
	Perms inc Cut & Blow Dry	£60

for more details and to book an appointment, please
contact Anita on:

Tel: 01865 499215

Mobile: 07986556015



Oxon City Drainage Based in Kidlington

- ✓ Blocked Drains
- ✓ Drain Cleaning
- ✓ Drain Repairs
- ✓ CCTV Inspections

— 24/7 Emergency Call-Outs —

Call us for fast, reliable local service

07828 212990

Cherwell Collective - Good Waste Charter

A people-powered project to co-create a strategy for good waste policy in Oxfordshire

We are hosting Engagement Sessions to learn what our community needs in order to have better waste practices and experiences. Each session will build on the last to help us co-create strategy to shape local policy. We'll be learning from YOU the problems, solutions, questions, and ideas you have to make your day-to-day experience with waste more sustainable and ideal.

Join our 3-part Engagement Session at WISH (Kidlington OX5 1EE) and enjoy a delicious meal from Climatorian Kitchen to say thank you. Please attend each meeting as they build upon each other:

- Wednesday 22nd April 10 a.m. – 12 noon
- Wednesday 6th May 10 a.m. – 12 noon
- Wednesday 20th May 10 a.m. – 12 noon

See sign ups and more details at cherwellcollective.com/events.

Engagement Sessions for Businesses will also be released soon to talk about their business waste needs and experiences. Please register your interest on the form available at cherwellcollective.com/good-waste-charter.

Sustainable Fashion Show at Blenheim Palace 2026



Tickets are now live for the annual Sustainable Fashion Show at Blenheim Palace that will take place on 29th September 2026. We're thrilled to offer an Earlybird 25% discount with code 'FutureOfFashion' for all ticket types until 1st May 2026. Scan the QR code to buy tickets.



Tuesday Repair Cafés

Have something broken? Our friendly volunteers will take a look and repair it while you relax and enjoy the café atmosphere. If the electronics need chargers or spare parts, please email us beforehand at wasteinnovationstation@gmail.com. Lunch is available if you'd like! Every Tuesday at WISH (OX5 1EE) 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Mend it May

Celebrate #MendItMay by mending something instead of buying it new again. We're here to help.

- Repair Cafe with SHARE Oxford, Sunday 17th May 2 p.m. – 5 p.m., Makespace Oxford, OX2 6TP
- Sew Workshop, Tuesday 19th May 10 a.m. -12 noon, WISH, 4 The Parade, Kidlington, OX5 1EE

More details at cherwellcollective.com/events.

**Budgens
OF YARNTON**



Spring is coming!

After a long winter and a mixed March, we're all hoping April brings more spring-like weather. With spring come colourful flowers, longer evenings, more sunshine, and plenty of seasonal produce to enjoy. If you're ready to dust off the BBQ, we have a range to suit every garden gathering. And if a spring clean is on your list, you'll find everything you need in store. Here's to brighter days and making the most of the season ahead.



Easter Sunday – 5th April

Easter falls nice and early this year and is always a lovely few days, come rain or shine. Two Bank Holidays, plenty of chocolate treats, and roast lamb on the menu... what's not to love! Whatever you need for the long weekend, just pop into store and we'll help make your Easter that little bit more special.

Wild Bean Cafe



Wild Bean has been a fantastic addition to the store, quickly becoming a favourite with customers thanks to its great coffee and tasty food on the go. If you haven't tried it yet, pop in and see why it's proving so popular



Store Times

Monday – Saturday 6am – 11pm

Sunday - 6.30am – 10.30pm

Post Office Times

Monday – Friday 9am – 5.30pm

Saturday 9am – 2pm

Sunday CLOSED



Remember, you can join our exclusive Platinum Club online at www.frasersbudgens.co.uk. You'll get 2p off a litre every Saturday & Sunday, Third off Platinum Car Washes Mon-Weds, 20% off hot drinks, 10% off Laithwaites, a free product each month and money off vouchers too... phew!



Oxford Bus and Morris Motors Museums Tricycles became popular 150 years ago

The Penny Farthing reached the peak of its popularity in the 1870s. However, not everyone was keen to ride such contraptions. There were many accidents and injuries, and some people were not physically capable of climbing onto a Penny Farthing, keeping balance when there, and safely dismounting - when intended. An alternative was needed.

Tricycles had been around since 1819, but no model had ever put into production. The French had been the major innovators in the development of cycles but the Franco-Prussian War in 1870 meant their engineering expertise was diverted for military purposes.

In 1876 an Englishman, James Starley of Coventry, took out a patent for the Coventry Lever tricycle. His first model was constructed with lever gearing, but he quickly abandoned that for a chain-driven model. Early types had tiller steering to the front wheel, but James was not satisfied with this and replaced it with rack-and-pinion device.

James was in his forties by now and commuted to work in Coventry with his son William on a tandem. One day they finished up in a ditch because the son was peddling faster than the father. James thought about the problem and designed a 'Differential Gear' so that the wheels could rotate at different speeds when cornering. Such devices are used on motor vehicles today.

However, James cannot be said to have invented the differential because earlier versions existed, although James was probably unaware of them. He registered a patent in 1877, number 1956.

The first vehicle to carry the Starley Differential was the Salvo Quadricycle with a fourth wheel being a safety wheel in front. Later the machine was renamed 'Royal Salvo' because its fame was noticed by Queen Victoria, who bought two of the machines for Royal use.



The photograph is of Royal Salvo Companion tricycle on display in the museum. It is designed for the gentleman to sit on the right with the higher saddle, as we look at the photograph, while the lady sat on the left. This tricycle became known as the 'Sociable'. The gentleman had control of both the rack and pinion steering, which was operated by the middle upright handle, and the brake, which was operated by the lever to the left of the gentleman.

One feature worth noting is the chain, which is enormous compared to today's cycles. A second is the fact that if the gentleman does not have a lady to share the peddling, the Sociable can be easily converted for a single rider by removing the Lady's saddle and bringing the two big wheels closer together.

In April our free heritage bus rides restart on the first and third Sundays of the month for the summer season. Our popular Easter Chick Hunt will be held on Easter Sunday (5th April) and on the Easter Monday Bank Holiday. Our Easter Bunny will be about on both days.

On Sunday 26th April some of our vehicles will be participating in 'Drive It Day' organised by the National Association of Road Transport Museums, of which we are a member. This event is not at the museum, but we expect many visiting vehicles at the start and end of the day.

Frank Collingwood

*Good
Neighbour
Scheme*

Covering Kidlington, Yarnton and Begbroke

Offers help to anybody over 60 or disabled with gardening, befriending, shopping, dog walking etc.

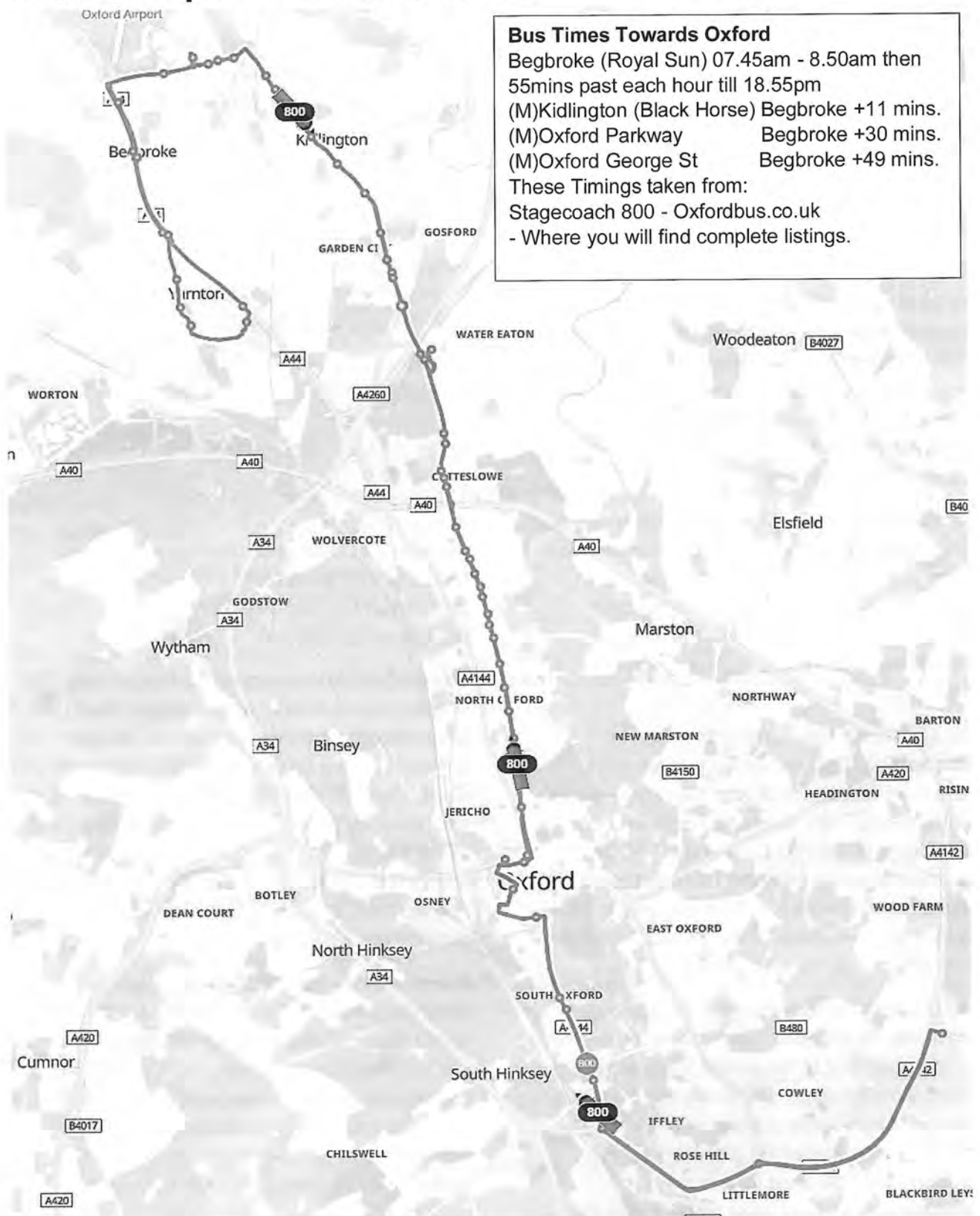
All Volunteers are fully DBS checked.

Please contact

Kidlington Information
Centre on

**01865
378479**

Route Map of 800 Bus Service



Bus Times Towards Oxford
 Begbroke (Royal Sun) 07.45am - 8.50am then
 55mins past each hour till 18.55pm
 (M)Kidlington (Black Horse) Begbroke +11 mins.
 (M)Oxford Parkway Begbroke +30 mins.
 (M)Oxford George St Begbroke +49 mins.
 These Timings taken from:
 Stagecoach 800 - Oxfordbus.co.uk
 - Where you will find complete listings.

The times shown for 'Major Stops' (M) are also known as 'Timing Points' which are used to regulate the service. These are the stops drivers will wait at if the bus arrives ahead of time. The times shown for all other stops are estimated, and drivers will not wait if arriving earlier. For this reason, it is strongly recommended to arrive at your stop around 5 minutes ahead of time.