

YARNTON

SEPTEMBER
2025

VILLAGE

NEWS

Editorial Committee:

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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 1st Indoor Bowls Club, Village Hall, 10 a.m. (*and every Monday*)
Monday 1st Yarnton Band, 7.30 p.m. - 8.45 p.m. (*and every Monday, except Bank Holidays*)
Wednesday 3rd Lunch Club, Village Hall, 1 p.m.
Thursday 4th 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*)
Friday 5th Copy date October Village News
Monday 8th Community Drop In restarts, Village Hall, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
 (*and every Monday*)
Wednesday 10th Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 6.30 p.m.
Thursday 11th W.I. Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Saturday 13th Open Day, Yarnton Manor, with refreshments at St. Bartholomew's
Wednesday 17th Lunch Club, Village Hall, 1 p.m.
Thursday 18th Gardening Club, Village Hall, 7.30 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
Morning Prayer Monday – Thursday, 8.30 a.m.
Evening Prayer Monday – Thursday, 5.30 p.m.
On Facebook Sundays, 9.30 a.m. Sunday Eucharist

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.

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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 October Issue

Material for inclusion in the October Newsletter should be received by midday on **Friday 5th September.**

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 November issue is **Friday 10th October.**

Yarnton Community Speed Watch

Dear residents of Yarnton

As you are no doubt aware, this village has a problem with speeding motorists. Thames Valley Police will only act if we can prove that we have a speeding problem. We are actively looking for people to join the speed watch team for the village.

It would require any interested person to complete an on-line exam, and be available during the day for an hour or so at locations within the village.

If you are interested in joining our team, please contact the Chairman of the Parish Council Mike Groves via email at: mike.groves@yarnton-pc.gov.uk and he will provide you with further information.

Our 30th Anniversary edition

Don't forget that in November we shall be celebrating 30 years of Yarnton Village News – a big milestone! We're planning a bumper edition, and would love to hear from people in the village about their memories of the last 30 years in Yarnton. Your article can be as short or as long as you like, and photographs are always welcome. Do give it some thought and let us have something. Copy date is Friday 10th October, but I'd appreciate receiving anything as soon as possible, as there will be quite a bit of extra work involved in putting the edition together and making it special. Many thanks.

Ruth Astall, Editor, and the Editorial Committee

Community Drop In

The Community Drop In restarts on Monday 8th September, from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. in the Village Hall.

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What is the Patient Participation Group (PPG)?

The PPG is a group of patients, carers and staff members from the practice who meet regularly to explore practice issues and patient experience, to help improve the services offered. The group acts as a forum for constructive feedback ensuring that patient voices can be heard

How does the PPG work?

The PPG meets in person as a group about 4 times a year, usually on a weekday evening at the Yarnton surgery.

- It is a two way process: Providing feedback from the patient point of view and gaining an understanding of the challenges that the practice faces day to day and longer term
- Each meeting lasts approximately 60 minutes.

Can I join the PPG?

The PPG is open to all registered patients of the Key Medical Practice in Kidlington and Yarnton, as well as carers and members of the practice team. The goal is to create a forum that represents all of our patients. We are always looking for new members to join us, especially those from minority backgrounds and those with young families

Where can I get more information about the PPG?

The next meeting on Thursday 9th October is our Annual General Meeting, 7pm in the Yarnton Surgery. All patients and their carers registered at The KEY are very welcome to attend the AGM.

For more information, take a look at our page on <https://keymedicalpractice.co.uk/> or email to ppg.keymedicalpractice@gmail.com

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We are pleased to partner with St Bartholomew's
Church where you can buy tea and cake all day

The Best and Worst Things about being a Wildlife Gardener

What are the best and worst things about being a wildlife gardener?

Becoming a wildlife gardener is like becoming a quiet steward of your own tiny kingdom - where bees rule the air, hedgehogs shuffle under the moonlight, and every flower seems to have an audience. It's not just gardening; it's cultivating life. And while there's immense joy in that, there are thorns among the roses too.

The Best Thing: Reconnecting with Nature

The most rewarding part of wildlife gardening is the deep sense of connection to the natural world. Unlike conventional gardening where aesthetics often lead, wildlife gardening prioritises life - native plants, pollinators, and habitats for all kinds of creatures.

Watching a previously lifeless patch of lawn transform into a buzzing, fluttering haven is genuinely magical.

Each season brings new visitors: butterflies basking on wildflowers in the summer, frogs hopping through damp nooks in spring, and birds gorging on berries in autumn. There's an intimacy in observing these interactions - seeing that a pile of decaying logs becomes a home for beetles or that a hedgerow harbours nesting birds. You become attuned to subtle changes, like the timing of a bee's arrival or the sound of owls at dusk.

And it's not just about the wildlife - it's about your own wellbeing too. Studies consistently show that time in nature reduces stress, improves focus, and enhances mental health. Wildlife gardening offers that daily dose of natural therapy, right outside your door.

The Worst Thing: Battling with Compromise (and Slugs)

But it's not always meadow songs and butterflies. The hardest part of wildlife gardening is learning to live with a certain amount of mess - and relinquishing control. While traditional gardening often prides itself on neat borders and exotic blooms, wildlife gardening can appear unruly. Neighbours may not appreciate your 'untidy' patch of nettles or the 'weeds' you're carefully encouraging.

You'll also need to reframe your expectations. Forget slug pellets and pristine roses - those very slugs are food for birds and hedgehogs. Aphids on your roses? They're just dinner for the ladybirds and lacewings. At times, your role isn't as much designer as it is humble host - offering space for life, even when it chews holes through your best-loved leaves.

It also takes patience. You won't see a thriving mini ecosystem overnight. Sometimes it's a season - or several - before wildlife really moves in. And yes, some battles are literal: protecting young plants from voracious rabbits or calming your frustration when the fox digs up your bulbs *again*.

Final Thoughts

Being a wildlife gardener is about choosing wildness over perfection, life over order, and wonder over control. The best parts feed your soul. The worst parts teach humility. And somewhere in that balance, you find a kind of peace - a small, joyful rebellion against a world that too often forgets how beautiful wild can be.

Happy Gardening.

Stuart Mabbutt, Wildlife Gardening Specialist, tel.01865 747243

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The volunteer Yarnton Flood Defence Group has continued to work on a number of things to try and help reduce the flooding situation in Yarnton:

1. After many, many meetings and a great deal of effort (including everyone reporting instances of flooding over the past year), Oxfordshire County Council, who are the Lead Local Flood Authority have written and published an S.19 flood report for Yarnton. Not only is this a first for Yarnton, with the County Council and the District Council finally acknowledging that Yarnton suffers from flooding, but this is crucial in unlocking a number of other initiatives.

The report confirms everything we've been working on, in terms of flood risk and causes, and makes recommendations without being judgmental. You can read the report by searching for *Section 19 Flood Investigation Report* on Google.

2. We've applied for, and been granted, funding to undertake a series of drainage projects in the village to help alleviate and better cope with flooding when it happens. The first of these projects is to dig a 50m long stretch of main river water-course out by the Scout hut, removing silt and plant growth that builds up over time, pending appropriate permissions from the Environment Agency. This stretch of the ditch is the only part of that watercourse that is not owned by Sanctuary.

This work will be commissioned by the Parish Council for the benefit of the community, and will hopefully serve as an example to other land owners that watercourses need to be maintained properly in order to flow. We're also hoping that if we have somewhere lower to pump water to in an emergency, we will have open access (fenced off for safety) to a watercourse that is at a good, lower serviceable level.

We believe that areas where ditches haven't been cleared are a cause for some of the flooding issues we often see. However, we can't be certain as this is a complex issue, with many interlinked hydrological issues, but every little helps to improve the overall drainage situation.

3. Sanctuary (who are responsible for a number of water courses in Yarnton) commenced 'Stage One' of their outlined plan of works to improve flows in main river arterial water-courses in Yarnton by clearing plant growth and silt on 28th July. This first stage addresses the upstream areas, with subsequent stages of work moving down-stream.

4. Thames Water have updated the Merton Way pumping station, including installing new switching gear, upgrading the fabric of the building itself with a new roof and changes to the windows and security of the building. Cassington Road is having modern pipes laid to replace the collapsed old pitch-fibre pipes, which we expect to improve sewage flow out of the village.

Our annual Yarnton Flood Defence Group meeting between all relevant agencies and local landowners is taking place in late October. We will publish an update on actions and decisions following that meeting.

As a reminder, as we enter the wet season, key resources to keep in mind are:

OxfordshireFloodToolkit.com and **FloodMary.com**: Information on how to cope if you are impacted by flooding.

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

ThamesWater.co.uk(Report a Problem): Please report any issues with foul sewage overflows near water-courses.

Gov.uk (Sign up for flood warnings): To receive advanced, localised flood warnings.

We continue to try our best to make a difference, in a meaningful, positive way for the benefit of the whole community, so we hope you find this update and the work we're doing helpful.

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Permitted Development and Home Extensions

I am often asked by people who are thinking about extending their property and have assumed that, because the extension that they are considering falls within the limits of permitted development, no planning approval is required and that they can just get on with it.

Permitted development applies to the enlargement or other alterations to a dwelling, provided that it is not listed or located in a conservation area, a national park or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, or Site of Special Scientific Interest for larger homes, and only applies to houses and not maisonettes, flats, or other buildings. There may also be other restrictions known as Article 4 directions applying to a particular property.

Extensions to the front of the property do not fall within permitted development, but some side extensions may be permitted development. Verandahs, balconies and raised platforms are not permitted development and will require planning permission, although Juliet balconies, where there is no platform and therefore no external access, would normally be permitted development.

Permitted development rights apply to specific types of dwellings, and this is where it can get a bit complicated. Single-storey rear extensions must not extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by more than 3 metres if it is a semi-detached or terraced house or no more than 4 metres if a detached house. Original house means the house as it was first built or as it stood on 1st July 1948 (if it was built before that date). Although you may not have built an extension to the house, a previous owner may have done so. In 2015 planning legislation was amended to increase these limits to 6 metres and 8 metres respectively.

Whilst it is correct that Planning Approval is not required if the proposed extension falls within the relevant permitted development criteria, a different kind of approval is required from the local planning authority, confirming that the proposed work is indeed permitted development. For extensions of up to 3 metres for semi-detached or terraced houses and up to 4 metres if a detached house, a Lawful Development: Proposed Use application is required. For extensions under the 2015 planning legislation, a Prior Approval: Larger Home Extension application is required, and will include consultation with neighbouring properties. In both scenarios, the local planning authority must be notified with the relevant application before the development commences. Supporting information in the form of existing and proposed plans and elevations of the proposed extension must accompany the application.

If the local planning authority decides that the work does not fall within permitted development limits, then a Householder Planning Application will be required for the work. If an extension has been built without either a Lawful Development Certificate or a Prior Approval Notification, the local planning authority can require a Householder Planning Application to be submitted for approval. If planning approval is not obtained for an extension already built, and an Appeal against the decision is dismissed by the Planning Inspector, the local planning authority can issue a Planning Enforcement Notice against the construction of an illegal building, requiring it to be demolished at the householder's expense.

Permitted development doesn't just apply to extensions, and includes the installation of solar panels or other alterations to the roof of a house such as dormers or the alteration or replacement of a chimney, as well as outbuildings, swimming pools and even LPG or oil containers.

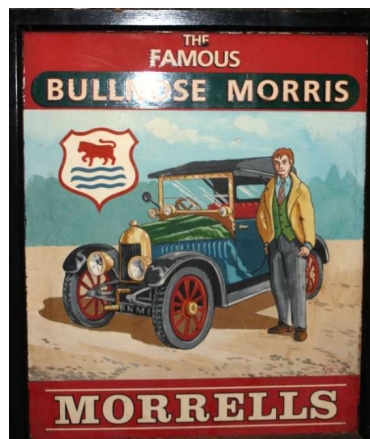
So as you can see permitted, development isn't as straightforward as it appears. The technical guidance runs to 50 pages! If you're thinking about a project and would like some guidance, please get in touch.

Jan Liberadzki BA Arch (Hons), MSc, email: design@jlda.co.uk

Oxford Bus and Morris Motors Museum

As part of the Oxford Open Doors festival organised by the Oxford Preservation Trust, we shall be giving free bus rides round the City of Oxford on Saturday 13th September. We shall be based in Bonn Square and running regular buses from 10.30 a.m. until 3.30 p.m.. Most people board our buses at either Bonn Square or next to Nuffield College, but the buses will pick up at other points around the city. Details are on our website.

Our Bullnose Morris was one of 54,151 cars built by William Morris in 1925. It was Morris's golden year as this was 41% of the total British private motor car production. Only seven years earlier his production had been only 387 cars - 99% less. Morris had been reducing his prices each year in the early 1920s. For 1925 the price of the Morris Cowley fell by £30 to £195, and the two-seater fell by £23 to £175, despite introducing balloon tyres as standard and other upgrades. The British economy stuttered in 1926 and sales were well down on 1925 with only 32,183 being despatched. By now the car design could be traced back to 1913 and looked old-fashioned. The company needed to modernise its cars, so the Bullnose radiator was discarded.



Our museums house lots of oddities. One is the pictured pub sign from 'The Bullnose Morris' when it was operated by the Oxford brewers, Morrells.

The pub was opened in 1969 by Morrells in Watlington Road, Blackbird Leys and had a good trade when Oxford United was playing at home. It was affectionately known as 'The Bully'. The pub passed indirectly to Greene King when the Morrell family sold the Lion Brewery in St. Thomas Street in central Oxford, but was closed permanently in October 2020 as a direct result of Covid.

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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 **Main Hall** or **Back Room** are, per hour unless stated:

Village residents: £11.00

Non Village residents: £13.00

Kitchen: £8.00 - per session

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

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Yarnton Netball Club

Our fabulous local netball club commences the new season with training on Tuesday evenings at the Rutten Lane Court from 9th September – seniors now in one session at 7.30 p.m. until 9 p.m. The younger age groups meet on Wednesday evenings – timings after school – please make contact by email: yarntonnetballclub@outlook.com or yarntonyouthnetball@gmail.com or via Facebook, for further information.

Seniors play their league matches at the Netball Centre Marston on Wednesdays and the Junior League is also played there during winter terms on Sunday morning. If you are thinking of joining us for the new season to commence in September, we would love to hear from you. The Netball Super-league drew to an exciting close in July to see London Pulse reign as champions over Loughborough Lightning. And so now we look to the international season as England Roses play New Zealand Silver Ferns on 15th and 16th November at the London O2. Who is coming to watch?

Sue Blackshaw – Yarnton Netball Club

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www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/open-events



01865 374971

Yarnton Band
Never too old to learn, especially the man!



Three Yarnton Tenor Horn players (R to L Rhian Pye, Kate Bird and Peter Hewis) at a workshop with Sheona White at Wantage on 28th June. We had a super time, particularly when we got to play in a massed ensemble of 24 tenor horns!



The Band at Great Barrington

It was also a great time at the Windrush Valley Fete in Great Barrington on 19th July with a local volunteer bringing us cakes and drinks during our interval. As we were short of cornet players during the school holidays, Alex and Richard Stroud came to help us out, making three generations of our Bass player John Carr's family playing on the day. Congratulations to William Pye (trombone) on passing his Grade 7 with merit; and to cornet player Dawn Mills on becoming a grandmother.



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Updates on 'Botley West' The Examination - What's the Latest?

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21st September 'In Steam' 'Crafts & Skills'

We have invited crafters from the local area including the
Oxford Guild of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers; they will be
bringing their Big Wheel, Needle Felting, Lace Bobbins and
Children's Clothes, De-coupage and much more. Special
attraction: Swindon Classic Car Club.

Come along and browse our MiniMarket Stalls - lots on
offer (Christmas presents perhaps?).

Bring the children, lots to do in the tinkering area. See Al's
Owls up close. Follow the Millie trail to win a Millie Badge!
Combe Mill, a late 19th Century Restored Water Mill on
Blenheim Palace Estate by the River Evenlode, will have all
Machinery running - 'In Steam' volunteers will be on hand
with lots of interesting information.

Come along and see the Blacksmiths in the forge; you
might just be able to make a poker. Children too.

Tea room will be open, BBQ, Gift Shop, Raffle and Tombola.
Ever thought of volunteering at Combe Mill? Come to a
steaming event when you will see where you have an
interest and can join the 'Team'.

Dog on leads most welcome. Parking free.

Adults £9, seniors £7.50, accompanied children free. Open
10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Also open every Wednesday for 'self-guided tours' with
volunteers around.

Adult's £5 senior's £4, accompanied children free.

Tea Room open if you would like to call in for
refreshments: cream tea, cake, ham roll, coffee and soft
drinks.

Contact: Combe Mill Society, 01993 358694,

www.combemill.org

The 2nd set of the Planning Inspectorate's written
questions were published on 30 July.

We were pleased to see that, once again, the Examiners
have been very thorough and have taken on board the
many concerns of Interested Parties (IPs) - that's all of us
who registered back in February - who have sent in
representations and responses to them. Nine times the
Examiners say they are 'minded to agree' with responses
from District Councils and other key parties. They have
now asked for answers to another 177 questions, 147 of
which are targeted at the Applicant (PVDP).

The Examining Authority asked the PVDP (the Applicant)
to justify its choices, design, methodology and
conclusions. They have requested that PVDP consider
reductions or omissions in 7 additional solar panel areas
and asked again for several answers and documents that
hadn't been provided! Several questions refer directly to
responses from individuals or groups - this means that
your responses are being read in detail by the Examiners,
taken seriously and used as the basis for further questions
- so, well done and read below to see how you can keep
them coming!

When are the deadlines?

- **22nd August 2025** (Deadline 4) - PVDP's answers along
with other submissions were due and will have been
published shortly after this date

- **12th September 2025** (Deadline 5) - Responses to the
Applicants' answers and to other submissions are
due.

Key questions. We have produced a list of some of the key
questions the Examiners have asked the Applicant and you
can read this at stopbotleywest.com. Important topics
include questions about the need for Botley West at all;
Blenheim company structure and trustees; project funding
and whether the whole thing will simply be sold off; loss of
agricultural land; why it is proposed to compulsorily
purchase land; protecting our heritage, including listed
churches and other unique properties; risks associated
with flooding; landscape visual impacts; noise pollution;
the impact on residential visual amenity,
But - this is just the tip of the iceberg and there are many
more needing answers from PVDP.

How should you respond? Look out for PVDP's answers
to the Examiners' questions - some *will* affect you!
Send your comments to the Examiners by the deadline of
12th September.

Go to stopbotleywest.com for more help and information.
We are reaching another important set of milestones in the
Planning Inspectorate's consideration of PVDP's
application for permission to go ahead with Botley West
solar power station, so please make your voice heard at
every opportunity.

Please help with a donation

Please join us and make a donation to our fighting fund via
stopbotleywest.com. If you are in a position to make a
significant donation please contact our Chair:
alex.rogers@stopbotleywest.com to arrange a personal
meeting.

Visit stopbotleywest.com for more details including latest
deadlines, regular updates and other helpful information.

Thank you for your support.



Contact details: Rev'd Oliver Petter, Rector, Benefice of Yarnton with Begbroke and Shipton on Cherwell, 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.

News from St. Bartholomew's – September Dates and Events

Sunday 1st September: *Creation Sunday*

We will keep Creation Sunday at St. Bartholomew's on 1st September at our 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. From 1st September to 4th October many churches across denominations observe a season of 'Creationtide'. This is a period dedicated to praying for the care of our world, and all life, reflecting on the ways in which human agency has caused great harm to the earth, its vulnerable species and peoples, and seeking to act wisely and responsibly in response.

The theme for the Season of Creation 2025 is 'peace with creation', based on Isaiah 32:14-18. The prophet Isaiah pictured the desolated Creation without peace because of the lack of justice and the broken relationship between people and God. *'The fortress will be abandoned, the noisy city deserted; citadel and watchtower will become a wasteland forever, the delight of donkeys, a pasture for flocks.'* (Isa 32.14).

Isaiah foretells a time of restoration and healing within the same passage and so gives a vision of hope. Christian hope is not simply a static reflection, but a dynamic momentum to take responsibility: to act, to pray, to seek change and justice. In observing Creationtide we acknowledge and grasp this hope and consider how we are acting in response to the climate crisis.

Saturday 13th September: *Open House Weekend*

St. Bartholomew's will be open (as always) on the weekend of the 'Open Doors Festival', running in and around Oxford. The annual festival offers a weekend where many historic buildings, community spaces and places that are not usually accessible to the public, are opened to all, giving people the opportunity to enjoy the city's heritage and culture for free.

Yarnton Manor is open for Open House Festival Weekend on 13th September and we are teaming up to offer refreshments (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.) in St. Bartholomew's for those visiting the Manor, raising vital funds for the church. Please do come and visit the church and the Manor and enjoy hospitality!

Saturday 13th September: *Ride and Stride*

Saturday 13th September is also the annual 'Ride and Stride' fundraising cycle ride and walking event. The event sees many people across Oxfordshire undertake sponsored rides or walks, visiting as many churches as they are able to do. This raises money for the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust, and for their local church. It is a great help to many historic church buildings. Pauline Franklin is cycling for St. Bartholomew's for the fifteenth time, and it will be her final year. She has raised wonderful funds for our church building, and we are most grateful. There is a sponsorship form in the church to support her ride.

Sundays 21st, 28th September, 5th October: *St. Bartholomew's Vision Sundays*

We shall be reflecting on our calling as a parish church within the village of Yarnton on these Sundays. A survey went out in late August, specifically to reflect on our Christian calling. We have often reflected on a passage from the gospel of Matthew in the Bible, and it is a helpful starting point. In this passage, Jesus is asked *'What is the greatest commandment?'* (Matthew 22.36). Jesus replies *'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'* (Matthew 22.37-9).

We will consider our life at St Bartholomew's, and how we are currently fulfilling the 'great commandment' - to 'love God' and to 'love our neighbour' – and how we may be called to act in new ways. All are welcome to join in this time of reflection over these weeks.

Regular Services and events

Sundays: 8 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer), 11 a.m. Parish Sung Communion with Junior Church, followed by coffee.

9.30 a.m. Benefice Online Service (St. Bartholomew's Facebook page).

Wednesdays: 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

10.30 a.m. Little Sheep (term time) – for under 5s and parents/grandparents/carers – crafts, songs and a story.

We welcome enquiries for Christenings and Weddings.

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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

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

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

Steve Smith: steve.smith@yarnton-pc.gov.uk

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

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

Damian Mizzi: damian.mizzi@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:

25/01762/F. Proposal: Single-storey rear and two-storey side extension. Location: 48 The Garth, Yarnton, Kidlington, OX5 1NA. R3.0064/25. A new signalised junction on the A40 to allow access and egress from the Eynsham Park & Ride site. A new 3.5m wide eastbound bus lane for 7km providing priority for buses operating along the A40 between the Eynsham Park & Ride site and the A34 overbridge (including over the bridges in the Duke's Cut area). A new 3.5m wide westbound bus lane for 3km providing priority for buses operating along the A40 on the approaches to the Cassington Junction and then up to the Eynsham Park & Ride site. Major junction improvements and capacity enhancement at A40 Eynsham/Lower Road roundabout and Cassington signals: New 3m wide Shared Use Facility (SUF) for active travel to the south of the bus lanes between the Eynsham Park & Ride site and the A34 overbridge (including over the bridges in the Duke's Cut area). New 3m wide Shared Use Facility (SUF) for active travel to the north of the bus lanes between the Eynsham Park & Ride site and the Lower Road Roundabout, Eynsham. New 2.5m wide pedestrian facilities at locations along the north of the bus lanes between Lower Road Roundabout, Eynsham and Duke's Cut Bridges. Five new and two upgraded controlled crossings at points along the A40 corridor, including in the Eynsham area. New bus stops and bus shelters throughout. Road safety improvements, new road signage as well as new lighting through built up areas. New planting and landscaping, improved drainage and flood risk management measures at HIF2 - A40 Corridor between the Eynsham Park & Ride Site and North Oxford, Oxfordshire.

Annual Village litter-pick:

The Parish Council will be organising a village litter-pick on 20th September 10 a.m.-12 noon, and 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. If you run a local club or organisation or are a resident and would like to be involved, please either contact the Clerk, or Cllr Samuel Smith.

Future meetings:

The next monthly Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 10th September at 6.30 p.m. 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.

September News – Rivers and Flooding

Evenlode Catchment Partnership – ‘Restoring the Evenlode catchment for the benefit of all’

The Evenlode Catchment Partnership (ECP) is a dynamic collaboration of over 20 organisations and countless individuals, united by a shared commitment to improving the water environments within the Evenlode catchment, which covers the north-west of Oxfordshire. Since our establishment in 2014, the ECP has been dedicated to enhancing water quality, improving flood management, enriching biodiversity, and fostering greater community engagement with our rivers. Wild Oxfordshire hosts the ECP and leads the natural flood management (NFM), river restoration and wetland creation projects. Changes in land management and river engineering have had a big impact on our wildlife and biodiversity. Natural flood meadow habitat is rare in the Evenlode catchment due to changes to arable farming and past dredging activities, whilst weirs and other barriers block the passage of fish and reduce their access to spawning grounds. As temperatures rise with climate change in the UK, extreme rainfall days are likely to increase. Recent large-scale flood events in the Cotswolds hit the national headlines, but behind the scenes the ECP delivered one of the first effective lowland NFM projects, demonstrating that NFM on a landscape scale works! Following Storm Bert (November 2024) our NFM interventions prevented flooding for all 12 homes at risk in Milton-under-Wychwood.

Field corner bunds in action. In 2018, natural flood management measures were installed on a farm above Milton-under-Wychwood to reduce flood risk in the village below. The first photo shows a group of people standing in the bottom of a field bund on 24th October 2024.



The second photo shows the same field bund in action on 25th November 2024, following Storm Bert. The water is around 2 metres deep at its maximum and the bund is holding back around 1700m³ of flood water. On this occasion, the houses along the Littlestock Brook in Milton-under-Wychwood did not flood.



Through regular monitoring of our NFM scheme on the Littlestock Brook, it has been thrilling to learn that not only does this project reduce flooding, but it brings multiple benefits including increased biodiversity.

Landowners can also help by increasing the organic matter in their soil, which will increase the capacity of the soil to retain water. Many of the landowners along the floodplain are now reverting their arable fields to grass. This will have multiple benefits including sequestering carbon, reducing erosion of soils and keeping nutrients on farms.

The ECP's work has gained recognition for its impact, with coverage in outlets such as *New Scientist* on our water quality citizen science work. We have used our river restoration and natural flood management projects as models for learning and best practice. Together, we are making a lasting difference to the health of the Evenlode's rivers and the communities that depend on them.



Cornwell Estate river restoration

Our mission is to create a thriving, sustainable water environment that benefits both wildlife and local communities. Find out more by watching our videos and exploring our website at www.evenlodecatchment.org.uk
Ann Berkeley, Evenlode Catchment Partnership Project Manager, <https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/>

Kidlington & District Historical Society

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 30th September, when our speaker will be Gillian Cane, whose talk is entitled 'The Miracle of Bletchley Park'. This has been re-arranged from July.
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.
For further details, email kanddhs@yahoo.co.uk




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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: Marilyn King, tel. 01865 376700, Email: marilyn.king@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 September

'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

7 th	10.30 a.m.	Paul Spray
14 th	10.30 a.m.	'Generosity' - Local Church Group
21 st	10.30 a.m.	Simon Blainey
28 th	10.30 a.m.	Rev. Paul Carter <i>Holy Communion</i>

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

7 th	10 a.m.	Rev. Michael Sawyer <i>Holy Communion</i>
14 th	10 a.m.	Jo Hibbard
21 st	10 a.m.	Rev. Paul Carter
28 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.



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Yarnton W.I.

Hello neighbours!

We have been so lucky to have enjoyed such bright and sunny weather this summer. I hope you have made some good memories.

This morning we had our semi-monthly coffee morning and had the best turnout yet! Half of our members took the time to join us for coffee and an opportunity to catch up. The conversation flowed and the time just flew by. What a lovely morning we had!

Another special event in our calendar was our monthly meeting for July when we hosted Jackie Allen, who was going to show us how to pack a suitcase. Well, we have probably all been fortunate enough to have been on a few holidays so we wondered what she could show us that we didn't know. We were in for a great surprise when we arrived to racks of lovely clothes of all colours and sizes for all occasions. Three of our members volunteered to model some outfits for us. There were matching handbags as well. What a wonderful event and best of all, we were shown how to pack outfits and were able to buy them as well! Lucky us!

As I write, we are all looking forward to our highly anticipated summer outing to Aston Pottery (photo next month), when we will have a walk around the gardens and admire the beautiful plants and come together to feast on their delicious afternoon teas. We will not be able to leave without having a look around their gift shop. The weather forecast is good!

If you are interested in joining us in September for our monthly meeting you will be welcome. Our speaker is Matt Williams speaking about his fifteen years as a volunteer for the Samaritans. What a very worthy organisation! This will be held at the Village Hall on Thursday 11th September at 7.30 p.m.

You will also see us in our hi-vis waistcoats participating in the annual Village Tidy, collecting the litter along Rutten Lane on Saturday morning 20th September.

We have a few activities planned for the month of September, including a visit to the cinema to see the new Downton Abbey film. We do keep busy!

Until next month, stay well and stay safe.

Judy Blake, President

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Our u3a branch is centred in Woodstock and attracts and welcomes members from the surrounding area including Yarnton. Are you recently retired or longer retired and looking for local social activity around an interest that you already have? The u3a can offer much and our website gives full information. www.woodstocku3a.uk Monthly members' speaker meetings are held at St. Hugh's, Hensington Road, Woodstock 1.45 p.m. for 2 p.m. speaker. Last month we enjoyed the Summer Open Event – a time to see what interest groups are up to, and we were entertained by an original staging from the play-reading group (who meet monthly in Kidlington on Mondays) and also a recitation by the recorder group (meet weekly on Tuesdays in Long Hanborough).

Our next speaker meeting is on Thursday 4th September at St. Hugh's Centre, Hensington Road, Woodstock – easy to reach on the S3 bus – when we have local historian Liz Woolley talking on *Beer, Sausages and Marmalade*. Our October meeting on 2nd is *Indians at Oxford* with Stephen Barker – what may that mean? – do come along to find out. Visitors £3 to include tea and biscuits.

Sue Blackshaw – Chair

Central Yarnton Bridge Club

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Yarnton Gardening Club

We're back in the Village Hall this month after our summer break, and are looking forward to a talk by Paul Green of Greens Leaves Nursery on 'Plants of the Season'. He will be bringing plants for sale, so come prepared.

The meeting is on Thursday 18th September at 7.30 p.m.

Visitors are always welcome (£3).

We've enjoyed two visits since we last got together, to St. John's College Oxford, and to Bourton House Garden, Bourton-on-the-Hill, and are now starting to plan where we will go next year. If anyone has any suggestions of places locally they have visited and enjoyed, then please let us know. We no longer run coach trips as they aren't financially viable, so our visits are to places easily reached by car in about 45 minutes or less.

Ruth Astall

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3 Hall Farm Paddocks, Spring Hill Road, Begbroke, OX5 1FW
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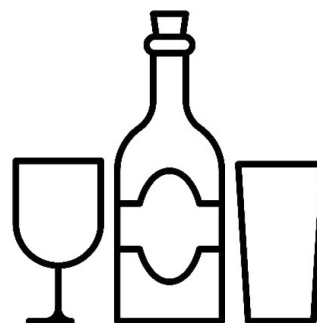
Budgens
OF YARNTON



It's that time already! For some this is the time of dread, for others it is a sigh of relief! As always, the store will have a range of back to school themed products to help you get settled back into the routine. Good luck!

New Ranges of Beers

Check out our new additions of beers, ciders and wines at the store. We've brought in some of the best of British, from Hawkstone to Westons to Deya; we've found some of our favourites. As well as some wonderful English wines... the Three Choirs English Sparkling is a delight (and made just up the road!)



Raising for William Fletcher



**William Fletcher
Primary School**

The store is proud to continue its partnership with William Fletcher and very pleased to be helping raise funds for a new outdoor learning canopy. If you can spare any change please pop it in the tins at the store over the Summer. Thank you!

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 everyday, Half Price Platinum Car Washes Mon-Weds, 20% off hot drinks, 10% off Laithwaites, a free product each month and money off vouchers too... **it's free to join too.** Why not?