

DUCKLINGTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

August/September 2010

ISSUE 155

PARISH COUNCIL

New Parish Councillor

Catherine Maddison decided that she had enjoyed serving as a Parish Councillor between June 2006 and March 2010 so much that she reapplied to be co-opted back onto the Council to fill the vacant position. With her co-option the Parish Council is back up to full strength.

Ducklington Pond Update

Once again the pond has dried up, but this is becoming common throughout the region at this time of the year.

On 22 June the borehole alongside the pond was begun. Unfortunately the ground was harder than expected and it took two days to complete. We hope that the drilling did not disturb anyone. The drilling revealed a thick band of gravel and also a bed of Oxford clay which contained a typical oyster fossil (*Gryphaea*). The borehole reached 5.5 metres and is now capped with a flush inspection cover. The underlying groundwater table will be monitored through the borehole every two weeks together with the pond surface water level. This should give us some idea of the relative water levels and it will be possible to compare with other boreholes owned by Smiths. Later in July surveyors are going to survey the pond levels in to ordnance datum and possibly pick up the base of the pond so that it can also be related to the base of the gravel horizon proven by the drilling.

This data will be made available on the DPC Website <http://www.ducklingtonparishcouncil.org.uk>

Free Play Ranger Sessions

Play Rangers, along with a van full of equipment, will be visiting the Chalcroft playground on the corner of Witney Road and Curbridge Road for 5 Fridays of the school summer holidays from Friday 30 July to Friday 27 August between 1.30pm and 4.00pm.

This project is Lottery funded and is aimed at children between 5 and 16 years of age. No registration is required and children can come and go as they please. This is *not* a childcare service and parents/carers remain responsible for their children at all times. Older children can attend on their own, but any children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult. All Play Rangers are qualified playworkers and CRB checked.

The goal of the Play Rangers is to encourage children to keep active and make better use of their local park and playground. Come along and join in the fun – it's all FREE!

Playground Maintenance

You may have noticed that the playgrounds in Ducklington have had a fresh coat of paint. The Parish Council arranged for a Community Payback team from Thames Valley Probation to come into the village to paint the playground equipment, the public benches, bus shelter and the outside of the sports pavilion. Whilst the playgrounds should be completed before the school holidays, the rest of the project will continue, so please be aware of the "wet paint" signs around the village.

Thames Valley Police – local update

PC Sam Moore and PCSO Hilary Rabson of the local Neighbourhood team attended the Parish Council meeting on 2 June to discuss current policing issues in Ducklington with the Parish Councillors. There were 59 recordable offences in the parish in the year to April 2010, including 8 burglaries (of sheds/garages, not dwellings), 19 cases of criminal damage and 14 theft offences (non-dwelling related). The number of incidences of criminal damage is high for a village the size of Ducklington and the village has now become one of the local Police Team's priority locations, meaning that it will get more regular patrols.

There were no witnesses to most of the offences in Ducklington, which makes it difficult to detect the offenders – only 6 people involved in the crimes during the year have in fact been identified and cautioned/fined.

The Police rely on members of the public keeping them informed of concerns, suspicious incidences and offences and residents are encouraged to contact them on the non-emergency number –

0845 8 505 505.

Witney Neighbourhood Action Group Annual Survey

The Witney and Eynsham Neighbourhood Action Groups are currently carrying out their annual engagement process.

This is your chance to tell the group and the Neighbourhood Policing Teams about the issues that concern you in your area. The top three concerns will be tackled over the next 12 months.

You can fill in the short survey online by clicking on the link on the West Oxfordshire District Council website homepage: <http://www.westoxon.gov.uk>

How to Contact your Parish Council

The Parish Council meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Lilac Room at the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend and observe the meeting.

Please note that the meeting in September will in fact be on the **second** Wednesday of the Month – 8 September.

The Parish Clerk,	Mrs Helen Sandhu, can be contacted on:
Postal address:	1 Manor Close, Aston, BAMPTON, OX18 2DD
Email:	ducklingtonpc@hotmail.co.uk
Telephone:	01993 851774
Website:	www.ducklingtonparishcouncil.org.uk

VILLAGE HALL

Ducklington Village Hall can be hired for private functions – children's parties, anniversaries, one-off meetings, etc. and for regular groups – dance and exercise classes, groups for education or pleasure for young and not-so-young.

The main hall has a maximum capacity of 100 and an additional room (the Lilac Room, upstairs) is available for smaller groups and meetings.



To book the hall or for information about booking fees, contact:

Sarah Temple 01993 709886 – please avoid calling after 8.30 pm.

BINGO in the Village Hall – in aid of Village Hall funds

Dates for future bingo sessions will be on the third Thursday of the month, as follows:

16 Sept, 21 Oct, 18 Nov

Doors open: 7:00 pm for 7:30 pm Eyes down

ALL WELCOME! (No unaccompanied children, please)



Ducklington Open Gardens



Thank you to everyone who supported this event in June, whether by opening their gardens, helping, donating or by coming over the weekend. We are pleased to say that £2,396 was raised towards the upkeep of the Village Hall.



Village Cafe

is on the second Wednesday in the month from 2 – 3.30 pm in the Baptist Chapel
come with a friend and have a chat over a cup of tea & biscuit or coffee & cake.

We chat, “put the world to rights” and have a laugh.

11 August & 8 September

St. Bartholomew's Church

Everyone is warmly welcome to all services and events.

During the summer, most of our activities take a break before resuming in September, although Sunday services continue as normal.

*A highlight, at the end of September, is the **harvest festival** and we offer a warm invitation to everyone to join us for our service and / or to come into church over the weekend (Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning) to enjoy the beauty of the decorated building – and a cup of tea.*

*The church is **open every Wednesday** from 9am until 1pm. We hope that people will appreciate the opportunity to come in and look around – or to just sit and enjoy the beauty and the peace. There is a box for prayer requests just inside the north door and a short time of prayers at 11 am, to which all are invited.*

*In addition to Sundays, there are a number of opportunities to find out more about the Christian faith. As well as regular discussion groups throughout the year, there will be an **Alpha Course** starting after Christmas.*

*The bishop will be here in December for a **Confirmation Service**. If you would like to know more about being confirmed, or anything else about the church, please contact Bob.*

Some dates to note: September 26th – Harvest Festival - service at 9.30am

November 28th – Christingle Service at 5pm

December 12th – Confirmation Service at 9.30am

December 19th – Carol Service at 6pm

April 17th 2011 – Fritillary Sunday

*Enquiries about baptisms, weddings and funerals to the **Parish Administrator, Mrs. Marian Pitman** - tel. 703374 (not after 7.30pm please!)*

***Vicar: The Revd Bob Edy**, Witney 776625 **Website:** www.ducklingtonchurch.org.uk*

Every Sunday

There is a service in our church at 9.30am

On the first Sunday in the month, this is a Family Service lasting about 45 minutes. This is quite informal and is suitable for all ages.

On the other Sundays, we have groups and activities for children and young people at the same time as the morning service.

On the first Sunday in the month, we also have a Communion Service at 6pm. The congregation is smaller and this is a more reflective time



DUCKLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Take a look at what's happening here at Ducklington Baptist Church.

Sunday Morning Worship @ 11.00am

We follow a simple and uncomplicated form of worship. Our services last about an hour, in which

- We sing a mixture of traditional and contemporary songs of praise
- We pray for the needs of our local community and for the wider world, and
- We listen to what God is telling us through the reading and an explanation of a passage from the Bible.

Tea and coffee is served at the end of our services.

We celebrate communion on the first Sunday of each month.

Monday Baby & Toddler Group @ 10.00am to 11.30am (except bank holidays)

These times are filled with fun for the children and great conversation for their mums and carers. They're a wonderful opportunity to meet with existing friends and to make new ones too. Just drop in!

Monday Bible Study @ 7.30pm

We meet for fellowship and study every Monday evening at the church. Whether you have previous experience in studying the Bible or none at all, you will enjoy the lively discussion and rich camaraderie with others who are keen to learn more about God's Word.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting @ 8.00pm

Brian and Paula Brewer host a mid-week prayer meeting in their home at 9 Bartholomew Close, Ducklington. We would love to pray with you and for you, so please feel free to join us. If you would like to submit a prayer request, please contact Brian or Paula on 07780 786108 or via e-mail at bpbrewer1@yahoo.com.

Dads & Toddlers @ 10.00am to 11.30am on Saturday 11 September

Savour the smell and the taste of our bacon rolls and enjoy a mug of fresh tea or coffee at this event. If you're a dad or granddad, come and join us for conversation with other men while the children play and their mums enjoy a break.

Newcomers are especially welcome at all of our gatherings.

Interim Pastor: Brian Brewer
Tel. 07780 786108

Website: www.ducklingtonbaptistchurch.org

Ducklington W.I.

We meet on the 1st Thursday of the month in Ducklington Baptist Chapel at 7.30 - 9.30pm. We offer a warm welcome to members and visitors, interesting speakers and other social activities.

5th Aug.	Demonstration - Hearing and other assistance dogs. Open meeting.
2 nd September	Craft evening – making greetings cards
7 th Oct	Chrissy Harper and her owls. Open meeting.

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DUCKLINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

All sessions are open to 2 1/2 - 5 year olds and run from 9 am until 11:45 am. We accept nursery vouchers and there is no minimum number of days required by new starters. Places are currently available. For further information please contact; Ducklington Pre-school 07779 186957, or enrolment organiser Lindsay Jarvis on 703647, or email: duckpreschool@yahoo.co.uk

On **Wednesday 11th August** Ducklington Pre-school and **Moments to Last Photography** are offering a free portrait sitting, at the Village Hall. We are taking bookings for up to 20min time slots to allow you to have single, group, or family photos this is open to anyone of all ages. There is no commitment to buy these photos but if you decide to order any (proofs will be available later) Ducklington pre-school will get a percentage back from all orders. Tea and cakes, will be served and we are also looking for second hand books for a book stall. If you have any that you would like to donate please contact Claire Lodge 01993 200415 or bookings for a photo session email. Ducklingtonpreschoolfundraising@hotmail.com

Flower show

For several years we have provided refreshments for visitors to the Show. We would be very grateful if you would consider donating any of the following items; cakes, canned drinks, tea bags, coffee, sugar or any other suitable items that we can sell as part of the refreshments we offer. Please call Claire if you can donate any or bring them along to the Flower Show – please label the cake so we can advise customers. All Donations gratefully received.

Ladies night Friday 17th September

Pre-school will be holding a ladies night at the village hall with a selection of stalls, Beauty treatments, Massage and reflexology on offer. We will be looking for any donations of wine to offer on the evening, please come along to shop, socialise and be pampered.

These are just a few of the fundraising events we have coming up please come along and help support the village pre-school. These events help us to purchase new equipment and essentials needed for the Pre-school.

Ducklington pre-school staff and committee would like to thank you for your support.

DUCKLINGTON GOOD COMPANIONS

We have once again enjoyed our meetings in the village hall. Many interesting speakers have entertained us since January, such as an afternoon of monologues & songs from Mr Blackie & Mr Clack, and an interesting talk about the Cutty Sark, among others.

We raised money at our Bring & Buy stall, had quizzes and fun trying to sing old songs. In May we had a lovely lunch in the Strickland Arms where the staff really worked hard for us; so a big thank-you to them.

We had two outings, the first in June to the 3Ts where we had tea & cakes and super rides around their lake in a speed boat. Second was a trip to Aston Potteries where we enjoyed a demonstration of how their pots are made; followed by a scrumptious cream tea in their café.

We are looking forward to Marjorie & Derek Soffe's Garden Party at 48, Witney Road at 2pm on 23rd August. Please remember to bring any bottles you have for the Flower Show Bottle Stall.

The first Autumn meeting in the village hall will be on Monday 13th September at 2:15pm. All over 60's are welcome, Details from Jenny Izzard – 01993 703473.

Milk Bottle Tops

These are still gratefully received for the hospice movement. Please bring to 38, Witney Road. Thanks for those I have received so far.

AGE UK

Anyone needing information or help, etc. Contact your village link person; Jenny Izzard on 01993 703473

The Mobile Library

The Library van calls in Ducklington every two weeks from 12th July; it stops in two places: By the Witney Road bus stop from 1:35 pm then by the Pond until 2:00pm. Use it if you can as low usage could mean less visits, or none at all.

DUCKLINGTON MORRIS

QUEEN EMMA'S MORRIS

We practice on Wednesday evening at Ducklington Village Hall from 8.15 p.m. to 9.45 p.m. We are all women at present but would welcome men or women to dance or as musicians. No need for previous experience as tuition will be given. Sometimes we dance out with Ducklington Morris as on Frittillary Sunday or at their Ale, but we also dance with other sides at other venues.

For further information please contact our Squire - Karen Shooter tel: 01993 840320 or e-mail: squire@queenemmas.co.uk or Publicity Officer - Dorothy Allen tel: 01993 776824 or e-mail: daveanddotallen@yahoo.co.uk

DUCKLINGTON MORRIS

We practice on Tuesdays in the Village Hall from 8.30 to 10pm. Both sexes and all age groups welcome. No experience necessary.

Our Local August/September Dance Programme.

Tues 10th August:- The Bell Inn, Ducklington with guests Jack in the Green, Charlbury Morris and Eynsham Morris.

Tues 14th September:- The Strickland Arms and The Bell Inn, Ducklington with guests Owlswick Morris.

Our News!

We are very pleased to report that this year we danced as guests at the Bampton Day of Dance on Late Spring Bank Holiday. As far as we know, it was the first time ever that a Cotswold style Morris side containing women dancers has been invited to this event. It was quite an occasion with as usual the streets and pubs of Bampton being thronged with spectators, dancers and musicians. We acquitted ourselves well and hope we will be invited back again next year.

Further details from Peter West on 01869 601451 or e-mail :- badger@ducklington.vianw.co.uk or badgerducklingto@ntlworld.com or see our website:- www.ducklingtonmorris.org.uk

DUCKLINGTON SPORTS CLUB

Club Update

We are deep into our Cricket season now, but Football never really goes away with summer tournaments etc. Recently the Witney Gazette featured the triumphant Under-10's, after they won the Tower Hill six-a side tournament. Ducklington won 3-2 on penalties in the final. Ducklington were also successful in beating Cumnor Minors 2-1 in the final of the Charlbury six-a-side tournament and to complete the hat-trick secured a 3-0 victory over Ardington in that competition.

We are still looking to restart another Girls team next autumn with an Under-13 team. We need someone to manage it, though. The role can be mentored or is available to an experienced coach. If you are interested in this role, please contact Steve Westwood on 702028. as its football or cricket.

250 Club

There are numbers available to join the 250-Club. Here are the latest winners

April Winners

£50 No. 37 Dave Tolley
£20 No. 33 D. Tolley
£10 No. 46 J Clement
£5 No.174 A. Soffe

May Winners

£100 No. 84 J. Duffy
£50 No. 99 M. Pritchett
£20 No.187 A. Fisher
£10 No. 242 S. Harley
£5 No. 83 N. Godfrey

June Winners

£50 No. 113 C. Clapton
£20 No. 222 L. Priest
£10 No. 239 J. Bowles
£5 No. 232 E. Trinder

Contact

If you are interested in helping or joining in with the Club activities, please contact Steve Townsend on 778142 or indeed, any member of the Club.

More Information

For more information, see our website: <http://www.duckingtonsportsclub.com/>

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DUCKLINGTON & HARDWICK PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

59th Show on August Bank Holiday Monday



The Ducklington Flower & Produce Show will be taking place this year on the **Ducklington Sports Club** grounds from 2pm on Bank Holiday Monday 30th August. Admission prices £1.50 for adults, £1 for children.

The Show Schedule should be coming through your door by the end of July, so think about what you could enter. The options range from fruit and vegetables, flowers and cookery to handicrafts, photography and children's entries. There will also be boys six-a-side football, stalls including a plant and seed swap, local produce, beer tent, pig roast, tea and cakes, sideshows, competitions, fairground rides and much more.

Any offers of help over the Show weekend would also be appreciated.
Contact Steve Townsend: 01993 778142 or 07885636504

Children's Fancy Dress Competition Free Entry

Open to all children of primary school age, please register by 3.15 pm.
Prize giving will be around 3.30pm – 1st prize £15 WH Smith vouchers.

Donations needed for Tombola Stall!

If you have any unwanted gifts or store cupboard items you can spare (in date please!) then all donations are most welcome for the Tombola Stall. Also if you are purchasing 'buy one get one free' items, we would be pleased to receive your 'free' item!

Any donations can be left in the box marked 'TOMBOLA' by the garage of 30 Feilden Close.

Thank you for your help and support.
Joy Cooke & Lorraine Harris

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Deadline for the October/November issue is 15 September

Items should be sent to Margaret Hellawell, 23 Park Road Ducklington by e-mail or on paper, to parkrd@nildram.co.uk or <tel:772565>

GOLDEN EAGLE

Local artist, Gary Woodley has for the first time produced a limited print version of his painting -500 copies. Size 19.5 x 16 inches.

Hand signed prints available from him for £20 each – Tel 702405

They will be on sale at
The Show on 30 August.

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KEEP THE KIDS ENTERTAINED AND ACTIVE THIS SUMMER

Leisure centres in West Oxfordshire are offering a range of discounts and activities to help keep children and adults active and healthy during the summer holidays.

Some of the activities that will be available include:

- **Under 16s swim for £1:** at Carterton & Windrush (Witney) during selected sessions.
- **Racquet sports for £1:** Badminton for £1 at Bartholomew Sports Centre, Eynsham, 9am – 5pm Monday-Friday for any age.
- **'Active Zone' playscheme:** at Windrush Leisure Centre, with roller-skating, games, bouncy castle, face-painting and plenty more. For 5-11 year olds.
- **Crash courses:** snorkelling, scuba diving, trampolining, football and lots more.
- **Football skills and training with Oxford United Football Club:** for boys and girls of all abilities, Monday 9th-Friday 13th August at Bartholomew Sports Centre. £44 per person for the week. To book, call 01865 337525 or email fitc@oufc.co.uk
- **'Tiger Tots' play session:** A drop-in play session for parents/carers to bring babies and toddlers every Wednesday at the Windrush, 10-11.30am (also runs during term-time).
- **Adults -** a 40-day trial from just £55 – less than £1.50 per day – at their local leisure centre. The trial includes unlimited use of the gym, pool, group exercise classes and racquet sports.

WYCHWOOD FOREST FAIR

Take the opportunity to visit the site of their next Community Wood when the 11th Forest Fair is held on land owned by the Friends of Wychwood, at Southdown Farm, Crawley Road, Witney on Sunday 5th September

An Aunt Sally competition, and a photographic competition featuring Wychwood People, Places and Nature are new for this year to add to the usual mix of Fun Fair, Morris Dancers, an Archery display, a large Secondhand Book Stall, Tombola, Grand draw, Plant and Produce stall and lots more. Local food producers and suppliers, locally produced ice cream, refreshments, a tea tent and beer tent selling Wychwood Brewery's beer will all be in attendance.

For further info visit www.wychwoodproject.org or contact Michael Drew on 01993 702624

Don't go anywhere else for your new **curtains** and **blinds**

5 reasons to come to us:

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