

# DUCKLINGTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

February 10 / March 10

ISSUE 152

## PARISH COUNCIL

~ A Happy New Year to you and your household from the Parish Council ~

### **Council services during periods of snow and ice**

#### ***Waste Collection***

When you read this life may have resumed to normal, but there is a fair chance that the District Council's waste collection service will still be running behind. Waste collection is disrupted when the roads are affected by snow and ice as it is not safe to take the large collection vehicles on ice packed roads. Whilst the District Council clears the backlog they will take excess waste placed in bags left by bins (please ensure that bags of excess recycling are left open). Up to date information can be obtained by looking on the District Council website ([www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk)) or by telephoning 01993 861000.

#### ***Treatment of Roads and Paths***

The County Council Highways department is responsible for the salting and gritting of roads. There has been much media coverage about the shortage of salt and grit and the problems being experienced by all councils round the country. The Parish Council is informed that it is the County Council policy to salt only the main roads in Oxfordshire – with priority placed on the A415 and A40 locally, and the main road to Eynsham from the A415 and the road towards Aston also treated if stocks of salt allow. It is not the County Council policy to salt or grit local residential roads, including all the roads within Ducklington. If you want to comment on this policy you should contact Oxfordshire Highways via the County Council website ([www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)) or by telephone on 01865 792422.

#### ***Water leaks and burst pipes - advice from Thames Water***

Thames Water is dealing with an increase in bursts and leaks because of the freezing temperatures. They are asking anyone who spots a leak or burst pipe on a street or pavement to contact their 24-hour leakline on freephone 0800 714 614. This will help them to fix pipes as soon as possible and grit potentially dangerous ice patches.

#### ***Help your neighbours - advice from Age Concern and Oxfordshire County Council***

Visit those in your communities you think may need help.

Make elderly and vulnerable neighbours aware of the County council support line - 0845 050 7666\*  
If you think people need specific help with heating, food or medical issues, contact the County Council on the number above.

*\* This telephone number is not to be used instead of 999 for emergencies.*

#### **Parking in hammerhead turns/ends of cul-de-sacs**

The Parish Council has received complaints about people persistently parking in the areas at the end of cul-de-sacs within the village which are designed for vehicle turning. Parking in this way constitutes an obstruction of the Highway and can attract a £30 fine or a visit to court. The local Police Neighbourhood Team will be looking into the areas in Ducklington where this is a problem. Please park considerately.

#### **Parish Council element of Council Tax 2010/11**

The Parish Council reluctantly decided at its meeting in December 2009 to increase the Parish Council's element of the Council tax by £2,000 to £23,000 overall for 2010/11. Despite the low rate of general inflation within the economy the Parish Council continues to experience increases in its essential expenditure due in particular to the increase in fuel prices. This amounts to an increase of approximately £2.60 for a Band D property for the year.

#### **A date for your diary – 2010's Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish meeting will take place on Tuesday 20 April 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. As usual the meeting will contain a mixture of presentations by the Parish Council, District Council, County Council and local village organisations and is a great way to find out what is going on locally and to share your views on issues that concern you. Make sure you put it in your diary!

DUCKLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## **THE VILLAGE POND OPEN MEETING**

**Thursday 25th February 2010  
7.00 pm Ducklington Primary School**

You've seen what happened to the pond this summer.  
Come and hear the plans for its future management.  
Have your say, hear pond experts speak.  
It's our village pond so please come and get involved.  
Children welcome.

### **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.

The Parish Clerk, Mrs Helen Sandhu, can be contacted on:  
Postal address: 1 Manor Close, Aston, BAMPTON, OX18 2DD  
Email: [ducklingtonpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ducklingtonpc@hotmail.co.uk)  
Telephone: 01993 851774

### **DUCKLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Sunday Morning Worship @ 11.00am** led by our American interim pastors Dennis and Brenda Greer (followed by tea and coffee)  
We celebrate communion on the first Sunday of each month.

**Bible Study Monday @ 7.30pm** (at the church) – we meet informally for study and discussion, currently looking at the subject of 'Angels' but moving on in a few weeks time to look into the New Testament book of Colossians

**Baby & Toddler Group every Monday** (except bank holidays) **10.00am –11.30am**  
Lots of fun for the children and a great opportunity to meet or make friends – just drop in !

**Dads & Toddlers** will be meeting again on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February and Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March** from **10.00am – 11.30am**. Dads and Grandads welcome! Enjoy a bacon roll while the children play.

**You will be warmly welcomed at any, or all, of our activities !**

**West Witney Community Church**, meets most Sundays at Queens Dyke School 10.30 am and a home group meets in Ducklington most Wednesdays.  
For more information contact: Mrs Jo McGhee on 702897  
Or visit: [www.occ.org.uk/westwitney](http://www.occ.org.uk/westwitney)

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## St. Bartholomew's Church.

**Come along to your parish church. You will be very welcome.**

**Lent** begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. Lent is not primarily about chocolate but is a time for personal reflection about the way that we live our lives. During Lent, we will have a number of discussion groups each meeting for five sessions; if you would like to join a group, do contact Bob for details.

**Alpha Course** We are planning an Alpha Course and would like to invite anyone who is interested in exploring the Christian faith, to come along. The first half of the course will be on Wednesday evenings for five weeks, starting on February 24<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to know more, there is a website: [uk.alpha.org](http://uk.alpha.org) - or contact one of the following if you would like to come along to an introductory Alpha supper on Friday January 29<sup>th</sup> or would just like to talk about Alpha: Martin Dines (776789), Jessica Parker (775333) or Bob Edy (776625).

**Craft Morning** We are planning another craft morning in church for children – on Saturday March 13<sup>th</sup> from 9.30am. The activities will reflect the fact that the next day is Mothering Sunday. To find out more, or to let us know that you would like your child to come along, please contact either Jessica Parker or Bob Edy (phone numbers above).

**Weddings.** *We are delighted that the rules about who can marry in parish churches have been relaxed so that many more couples will be entitled to have their wedding in our church. To find out more, see [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org) – or contact Bob*

**Confirmation.** *We will be having a Confirmation Service in December.*

*If you are at all interested in being confirmed, do have a chat with Bob, but please note that you do not have to be confirmed to come to church services. Everyone is welcome at every service!*

**Church opening** *The church building will continue to be open on Wednesday mornings for anyone who would like to use it, but during February it will be for a shorter time. There will be a notice outside the church indicating the opening hours. At 11 o'clock each Wednesday, prayers are said for about ten minutes, to which all are welcome.*

***Fritillary Sunday this year will be on April 18th***

**Vicar: The Revd Bob Edy, Witney 776625 Website. [ducklingtonchurch.wordpress.com](http://ducklingtonchurch.wordpress.com)**

Sunday Services:

**9.30am Morning Service** with Communion, Children's and Young People's Groups, except February 7<sup>th</sup> and March 7<sup>th</sup> which will be Family Services for everyone.

Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday service at 7.30pm.

**6.00pm Evening Service** on the first Sunday in the month.

Enquiries re baptisms, weddings, funerals: Mrs. Marian Pitman - 703374 (before 8pm please)\_

### **1<sup>st</sup> DUCKLINGTON BROWNIES**

Brownies meet in the Village Hall on Monday evenings (in term time)  
from 6 to 7.15 p.m.

Girls aged 7 – 10 years are welcome.

For more information please contact: Mrs Jane Twyman on 774368

## 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](mailto:duckpreschool@yahoo.co.uk)

Q. *What sort of television programmes do ducks like?*

### Witney Children's Centre Stay and Play Session

At Ducklington Village Hall, every Thursday 1-3pm.

From January we will have themed sessions-

First Thursday – children's cooking

Second Thursday – Physical Play

Third Thursday – making story sacks

Fourth Thursday – outdoor play – we will meet at an outside area in Ducklington to have lots of fun outside! We will let you know where nearer the date.

All welcome. Just come along and join the fun!

## The Good Companions (Over 60's Club)

We have enjoyed some excellent speakers and very good company during the latter part of 2009, ending with a lovely Christmas lunch at the 3 T's (TTT).

We will begin our 2010 meetings on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 2:30pm in the village hall. All are welcome. (weather permitting)

Any queries to Jenny Izzard on 01993 703473

Jenny is also the Age Concern link for the village.

### Also:

Plastic milk bottle tops are still gratefully received at 38, Witney Road; these are going towards helping the hospice movement.



### Village Cafe

is on the second Wednesday in the month from 2 – 3.30 pm in the Baptist Chapel  
come and join us for a cup of tea or coffee, all ages welcome.

**10 February and 10 March**

If you would like to bring **used stamps with about 1 cm of envelope around them**, we will collect them and forward them to someone who is collecting them **to raise funds**.

Alternatively, please deliver your used stamps to 23 Park Road.

*A. Duckumentaries*

# DUCKLINGTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

## 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:

**15 Feb & 18 Mar**

**Doors open: 7:00 pm for 7:30 pm Eyes down**  
ALL WELCOME! (No unaccompanied children, please)



Thank you to all who have supported the Bingo during 2009.  
We made £2105 during the year. We were very pleased with the donation of items for the Christmas Bingo – thank you all very much.

If you have any unwanted gifts, toiletries etc, which you think would be suitable for prizes, you can take them to Joan at 23 Feilden Close, or Linda at Red Lodge, Standlake Road.

One last request, we could do with some help to sell raffle tickets at the Bingo. If interested please contact Joan Luckett or Linda Jephcott.

## **Ducklington Village Open Gardens Weekend of 12 - 13 June**



With Christmas trees shredded (or returned to the loft!) and seed catalogues starting to arrive, thoughts may already have turned to the spring and to gardening...

Plans are coming together really well for the next Open Gardens weekend, but there is still time to consider opening your garden – just let one of the organisers below know by 4 April. (If you are unsure and would like to talk about the possibility of opening your garden, or have any questions at all, please ask! If helpful, we could put you in touch with people who have opened their gardens in the past. The fact that many are opening them again this year shows that they enjoyed the experience.)

**For those opening gardens or helping, a reminder that we agreed to meet again on Wednesday 28 April. The meeting will be at 7.45pm in the Lilac Room at the Village Hall. (This follows a regular village hall meeting for hall users which is at 7pm in the same venue.)**

Sally Craig: (01993) 772722; [sallypcraig@btinternet.com](mailto:sallypcraig@btinternet.com); Ruth Edy: (01993) 776625  
[ruth\\_edy6@hotmail.com](mailto:ruth_edy6@hotmail.com); or Alison Souster: (01993) 772747 [allysouster@btinternet.com](mailto:allysouster@btinternet.com)

## Ducklington W.I.

We meet on the 1st Thursday of the month in Ducklington Baptist Church at 7.30 – 9.30 p.m.  
Feb 4<sup>th</sup> – Sister Francis from Helen and Douglas House is our speaker.  
Guests welcome - £3  
March 4<sup>th</sup> – AGM followed by a talk on “My 35 years on a milk round”.

## **DUCKLINGTON SPORTS CLUB (DSC)**

### **Club Update**

DSC will be presenting updated plans to the Parish Council soon and will be advising them of the progress made so far, in charitable, chartered club status and funding plans. The gist being that our plans remain focussed on providing the village with a new Clubhouse /Pavilion by the end of next year.

The recent snow and ice has restricted sport being played outside in December and January and that has hampered our winter fundraisers too, but activity will resume when better weather arrives.

The club are looking to re-establish some in-door league games such as Darts, Pool and Aunt Sally, so if you are interested in any of these activities, please contact anyone associated with the club.

The Committee are still looking for a new Treasurer, as our existing Treasurer will be leaving the post by May 2010. We are looking to hand over responsibilities prior to May if a suitable candidate can be found in the meantime.

We are also looking for volunteers to help collect our 250-Club. Rounds are local to the village and are collected monthly.

### **Fund Raising**

#### **Quiz Night**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

£10 a table of up to 4 people. Includes food and a chance to win a £50 first prize. Call John Smyth on 07720 404271 or Steve Townsend 778142 to book your table.

#### **Youth 6-a- side football tournament Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2010**

DSC will be holding a six a side tournament. The event this year will be open to under 7/8/9/10 age groups. We hope to be able to open it up to other age groups in future years. This event cannot run without full local support and so we are asking for volunteers from all age groups to join a sub-committee. The first meeting will be on Thursday 28th January at 7.30pm in the Pavilion. We also need a long list of people who are willing to help on the day. This we hope, will be a big fundraising event for our new club house so that everyone can enjoy the best of facilities at Ducklington. If you want to help please come along to the meeting or contact; Gill Caton at [Gillian.caton@btinternet.com](mailto:Gillian.caton@btinternet.com) or Bev Townsend at [bevtownsend@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bevtownsend@yahoo.co.uk)

#### **Mobile Phone campaign**

If you have any old phone to recycle we can use this to raise money for the Club. The phones do not need to be working or have their chargers with them. Contact Tracey Clarke at [Tracy@clarkhouse.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:Tracy@clarkhouse.eclipse.co.uk) for more information.

### **250 Club**

There are slots available to join the 250-Club. It costs £1 per month. Here are the latest winners:

<b><u>250 Club October Winners</u></b>	<b><u>November</u></b>	<b><u>December</u></b>
£50 No. 70 Gary Hazel	£100 No. 264 M. Twyman	£50 No. 256 H. Godfrey
£20 No. 214 M. Godfrey	£50 No. 90 Al Smith	£20 No. 173 Mrs Wilkshire
£10 No. 152 S. Berry	£20 No. 202 A. Faulkner	£10 No. 269 G. Clarke
£5 No. 222 Liz Priest	£10 No. 27 Diane Ray	£5 No. 160 R. McLaughlin
	£5 No. 228 Mrs Hucking	

### **Booking The Club**

The Club is available for hire for parties and other uses.

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## **Cricket – Winter Nets**

Winter Nets start again on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January at Henry Box School. 12:00 until 1pm for adults, then 1pm to 2pm for Youth players. Everyone welcome. There are 8 sessions, spanning 10-weeks, with no nets at half-term (14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Feb).

The club has had a couple of their Under-13's players recognized by the County and congratulations to Tom and George for that.

## **Contact**

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

## **More Information**

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

## **NEXT NEWSLETTER**

**Deadline for the April/May issue is 15th March**

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

### **WITNEY FAIR TRADE MARKET**

Saturday Feb 27th 10.30- 4 pm at the Langdale Hall off Market Square  
Admission Free All welcome

There will be a wide range of beautiful fairly traded goods on sale from around the world, including Traidcraft goods, jewellery, crafts, textiles and toys.

Musical entertainment, children's games, face painting and free samples to try.

Fairtrade refreshments will be served all day, so why not come and make a day of it?

Every purchase will make a real difference to somebody's life!

Organised by Witney Area Fair Trade Action Group [www.waftag.blogspot.com](http://www.waftag.blogspot.com)

01993 881364

# PILATES

## **MAT WORK CLASSES**

**HELD AT DUCKLINGTON VILLAGE HALL**

**On Thursdays**

**Improvers Class @ 7.00pm**

**Beginners Class @ 8.10pm**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:-**

**Rona Bennett Tel: 01865 820754**

**Email: [ronastella@btinternet.com](mailto:ronastella@btinternet.com)**

**Qualified [PILATESfoundation](#) Matwork Instructor**



## DUCKLINGTON AND HARDWICK PRODUCE ASSOCIATION



This year should be the 59<sup>th</sup> Show, but without your help, there is a real possibility that it will **NOT** go ahead. This would be a great shame for the village and village life. Once a show like this ceases to happen, it is almost impossible to reincarnate it. For many years, the committee has consisted of the same few people, despite numerous requests for new committee members only the occasional new face has joined. At this year's AGM, several members have resigned and new committee members are urgently needed.

**DO YOU WANT YOUR SHOW TO CLOSE FOR GOOD?  
UNLESS YOU HELP IT WILL.**

If we do have a show, we require help on the day prior to the show as well as on the day itself. We only have four meetings a year; these are held in the Village Hall. Ernie Slater is one of the members who have resigned due to failing health. Ernie has been a valued member for many years and organized the raffle, we would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his work and wish him a speedy recovery. Another long-standing member Brian Hicks, (our Treasurer) will be standing down at the end of 2010. Both these positions are vital to the Association and need filling.

We have a deadline of **February 15<sup>th</sup>** to make the decision on whether the show goes ahead this year.

If you want to keep YOUR village show going please contact:  
the Chairperson, Stephen Townsend on 01993 778142.

[slt@townsendbuilders.co](mailto:slt@townsendbuilders.co).

### **A FEW SHOW STATS.**

Beware it is not good reading!

In 2009 there were 20 household entries from outside the village and only 40 from the village - eight less than previous year.

40 village households out of 650.

There were a total of 501 entries that's an average of 8 per household.

The show made a profit of only £149.00. This includes a donation of £1000 from the Bell Inn Charity and £750 from the Sports Club for the use of the marquee.

29 pupils from the school entered.



# DUCKLINGTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



Ducklington Pre-school are holding a handbag auction  
Friday 23rd April 2010 from 7.30pm at  
Ducklington Village Hall.



To make this evening a success we need your unwanted handbags so we can auction them off to the audience! The more we get the more funds we raise for Ducklington pre-school.

We are also planning on having an accessory stall selling purses, hats, scarves, Gloves and Jewellery so again if you have any of these unwanted items at home we would be very grateful for them.

A fun filled evening of socialising, refreshments, accessory stall, music, and handbag auction! Tickets are £3.00 each (which includes glass of wine and nibbles)

Please pass any donations to or get tickets from:

Mrs Emma Shirley, (Secretary) at:  
40 Witney Road, Ducklington  
Tel: 01993 708108  
Email: matthewshirley@btinternet.com

Alternatively please pass to Emma at pre-school or contact her to arrange collection.

