

PARISH COUNCIL

Resignation of Brian Hicks

After 38 years' public service as a Parish Councillor, Brian Hicks left the Parish Council in April. He will be well known to many people in the village, but maybe not everyone will know just how much he has helped the Parish Council to achieve over those years. Council Chairman Edmund Strainge writes: "Brian was on the Parish Council when the A415 bypass was built. This cut through the allotments off Witney Road. Brian was involved in planning, developing and running the replacement allotment site from the beginning. The bypass also cut through the middle of a 16 acre church glebe field. The 4 acres left next to the village were bought by the Parish Council for a village playing field. Brian has been a leading light with the purchase, planning, development and running of the field for over 30 years and without his efforts we would not have such a great village asset now. 38 years of time given as a Councillor is a tremendous achievement. We thank him for his help, advice and friendship over the years."

New benches at Bartholomew Close open space – thanks to Wesley-Barrell

Over the past year the Parish Council has been working to improve the public open space at the bottom of Bartholomew Close. Furniture maker Wesley-Barrell whose factory is on Standlake Road was approached to see whether they would be able to manufacture and donate two picnic benches for the site. The Parish Council was very grateful when they agreed and we hope that many people will be able to enjoy using them over the coming summer.

Anti-bird roosting spikes on swing frames

The Parish Council is disappointed that the majority of the plastic anti-roosting spikes which were installed for the second time in April were again broken off within a couple of days. The Parish Council does not intend to waste further public money on buying and installing new spikes, so people who want to use the swings will regrettably have to wipe them free from bird mess before using them.

Dog fouling

We have been contacted again by residents frustrated at the amount of dog mess they see through the village, particularly on the open spaces. The open spaces are used extensively by children and young people for recreation, and the open space at the end of Bartholomew Close is used by the youngest children from the Primary School for outdoor learning. Dog mess is not only unpleasant to step in, it also represents a danger to public health and to the health of children in particular – dog faeces carry many germs that can cause illness and in extreme cases could result in blindness.

Allowing your dog to foul in a public place is an offence. If you see someone leaving dog faeces in a public place you can report it to West Oxfordshire District Council on 01993 861000. Offenders may be prosecuted.

Allotments

The Parish Council is responsible for the management of the allotments bordering the A415 near the petrol station. Residents from the parish of Ducklington are given priority when allotments become vacant, but there are no people from Ducklington currently on the waiting list. If you, or anyone you know, would like the opportunity to grow your own when an allotment becomes vacant please contact the Parish Clerk via the contact details given below.

Annual Parish Meeting – 10 May 2011

Unfortunately the Annual Parish Meeting on 10 May was not very well attended. You missed a very interesting evening! Wing Commander Mike Gardner from RAF Brize Norton spoke about how the base is going to change over the next few years as operations transfer from RAF Lyneham. Ian Clarke from Oxfordshire Highways explained how people can report problems with the roads and told the meeting that the County Council is now considering replacing the Station Lane traffic lights at the junction of Focus/Esso in Witney with a full-size roundabout. Steve Hayward, the District Councillor for Ducklington revealed that the County Council is now thinking of installing a new roundabout directly on the A40 at Downs Road in Witney with the hope that this will relieve some of the traffic pressures on the Station Lane junction and on Thorney Leys in Witney. Martin Layer from Smiths of Bletchington who run the gravel extraction site at Gill Mill showed the meeting a map of the proposed new extraction areas between the current site and the A40 in Witney and draft plans for how they will be restored once they are fully dug. There were the usual presentations from the Parish Council, the County Councillor

and the District Councillor and Ducklington Sports Club also spoke about their activities. Draft minutes of the meeting will shortly be published on the Parish Council website. We hope that more people will be able to come to next year's Parish Meeting.

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
Telephone:	01993 851774
Website:	www.ducklingtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Gill Mill Quarry Update

From Martin Layer, Planning & Estates Manager, Smith & Sons Bletchington

We are now steadily bringing together all the technical information that we have been gathering for the past 18 months or so and drawing together some conclusions on the proposals for the future of the quarry at Gill Mill. There is still a way to go before we make the formal application to the County Council but ideas are now emerging on the extent of the proposed extension and on the afteruses for the land once it has been restored. Nature conservation will feature strongly in the proposals as a way of driving forward the county's targets for improvements to biodiversity but there are also opportunities for creating new footpaths and bridleways into areas of the valley that haven't been accessible before. We are also considering opportunities for some water based recreation and ways of delivering longer term benefit for the local economy. Some of these ideas were outlined at the Annual Parish Meeting earlier this month but there will be a chance for everyone to take a look and to make comments at an exhibition we are holding on the proposal on June 16th at Ducklington Sports Club. A leaflet will be coming through your letterbox soon providing a bit of background and inviting you to come along, see what the ideas are and to give us some feedback.

If you have any questions please email info@smithsbletchington.co.uk or write to me at Smiths Bletchington, Enslow, Kidlington OX5 3AY. Thank you.

Ducklington C of E Primary School News

This is a busy time of year for our school with summer dance, sports week and several of the classes looking forward to school overnight trips. Year one are finding out about holidays, where people go for their holidays, what they do there and how different seaside localities are from our own. As well as modern holidays we're going to find out what seaside holidays were like in the past, so if you would like to come into school to tell us all about holidays in days gone by, we'd be delighted to hear from you! The youngest children at the school benefit from a fantastic outside learning area but this is in need of a little TLC and any donation of time, compost or top soil towards the end of the summer term would be really helpful. **We are having Sports Week June 13th-17th. Can you support? We are looking for anyone who could offer their skills and knowledge in any sport.** If you are able to help with Sports week or share a story of holidays in the past please leave a message for yr 2 teacher (Sports week) or yr 1 teacher (holidays) at the school office, Telephone 01993 703651.

The School benefits greatly from the support it receives from parents and the wider community. We always appreciate any support offered, be it, offering to share experiences and skills (tell us what life in Ducklington used to be like? Share your gardening or building skills, donating materials (recycling for junk modelling is a favourite!) or coming along to our fundraising events organised by our PTA. The PTA is also always on the lookout for companies who can provide sponsorship for fundraising events and donations for raffle prizes.

The Parent's Association is a registered charity, and our next major fundraiser for the school will be the **Summer Fayre on Saturday 25th June, between 12-3pm. Please come along and support the school, There will be a Pig Roast and traditional stalls, as well as cream teas and entertainment.** We are actively looking for companies and individuals to sponsor rides and stalls at the Fayre. Maybe you work for, or know of, a company which can offer support in this way? Please contact a member of the committee info@ducklingtonpta.org.uk (or leave a message in the school office) if you can help.

DUCKLINGTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

St. Bartholomew's Church

Everyone is warmly welcome to all services and events.

Sunday Services: Every Sunday, at 9.30am, there is a service in our church. On most Sundays, this includes Communion and there is a crèche and separate groups for children and young people. On the first Sunday in the month, June 5th and July 3rd, at 9.30am, we have a Family Service. This lasts about 40 minutes and is for all ages. It is a very good 'introduction to church.' On these first Sundays, there is a Communion Service at 6pm.

Fritillary Sunday Many thanks to all who supported Fritillary Sunday. Many people came along and enjoyed the donkeys, as well as the exquisite beauty of the flowers, the refreshments and the other attractions. The date for next year will be April 15th 2012.

Alpha Course We have just finished a very happy and interesting Alpha Course and are planning another for February 2012. Have a chat with Jessica Parker, Martin Dines or Bob Edy if you would like to know more.

Ladies' Reading Group This meets every six weeks or so for an informal discussion of a novel and appropriate refreshments. If you would like to know more, do contact Ruth Edy (776625).

Website For details of other activities and events and to see the weekly notice sheet, please look at our website www.ducklingtonchurch.org.uk.

Some dates Harvest Festival – September 26th
Christingle – November 28th
Carol Service – December 18th
Fritillary Sunday 2012 – April 15th.

Church open every Wednesday

The church is open every Wednesday from 9am until 1pm.
We hope that people will appreciate the opportunity to go 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.

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

Motor Neurone Disease Association, Local Branch.

Coffee Morning and cake stall, 10-12pm July 16th At High St. Methodist Church, Witney.
Homemade cakes needed, please bring to the stall on the day, thank you - Barbara Farrar



DUCKLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Welcomes you to the following:

Sunday Morning Worship @ 10.30am

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.

A programme of activities is available for children.

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

We normally celebrate communion on the first Sunday of each month.

On Sunday **26 June** and Sunday **24 July** we will meet at **5.00pm** in the evening for an alternative service, beginning with a time of fellowship to get to know one another better before we respond to God's love with our songs of praise, our prayers and our Bible reading. There will be no service in the morning on these two Sundays.

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. Simply drop in!

Monday Prayer and Bible Study @ 7.30pm

We meet for prayer, 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.

Dads & Toddlers @ 10.00am to 11.30am on Saturday 11 June and Saturday 9 July

Savour the smell and the taste of our bacon rolls and enjoy a mug of fresh tea or coffee at these events. 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.

Movie Night @ 7.30pm on Friday 10 June

Do come along and join us this month for a free viewing of the movie *Fireproof*. It's an action-packed love story about a fire fighter, his wife... and a marriage worth rescuing! In US cinemas it touched the hearts – and souls – of millions of filmgoers. Soft drinks and popcorn will be served too!



North Oxfordshire Community Foodbank

Ducklington Baptist Church is a satellite collection point for the foodbank. If you would like to donate food, with a "best before date" of at least six months, please bring it along to the church at the beginning of our regular Monday or Saturday morning events for parents and toddlers. Further information about the foodbank is available at www.northoxfordshirecommunityfoodbank.org.uk. Thank you to all who have given to date and to those that have begun to make regular gifts.

Newcomers are especially welcome at all of our gatherings.

Interim Pastor: Brian Brewer
Tel. 07780 786108

Website: www.ducklingtonbaptistchurch.org

DUCKLINGTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Ducklington W.I.

We meet on the 1st Thursday of the month in Ducklington **Baptist Church** at 7.30 - 9.30pm.

June 2nd A Prickly Affair – The charm of the Hedgehog – Hugh Warwick

July 7th Working with Patchwork – Stephanie Vann

Non members £3 per meeting.

For more information please contact Jo on 702897



Village Cafe

is on the second Wednesday in the month from 2 – 3.30 pm in the **Baptist Church**
come alone or with a friend and have a chat over a cup of tea & biscuit or coffee & cake.
8th June & 13 July

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 June, none in July & August then re starts 15 September.

All money raised goes to the Village Hall funds.

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

ALL WELCOME! (No unaccompanied children, please)



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

STAMP OUT RURAL CRIME

Rural neighbourhoods can be a target for criminals. On Thursday 28 July, The Community Safety Partnership is holding an event in Carterton at Elderbank Hall, Station Road, Brize Norton, to raise awareness of simple steps that can be taken to improve your security and reduce your chances of becoming a victim. Entry is free.

Thames Valley Police and other relevant organisations will be handing out crime reduction advice specifically catered to those in rural areas.

The event will be held in two drop-in sessions – 2pm-4.30pm and 6pm-8pm.

The evening session will also begin with short presentations from key speakers.

DUCKLINGTON MORRIS

'DUCKLINGTON MORRIS

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

Our June/July Local Programme

Saturday June 11th, 11am -12.30pm Morris Dancing demonstration in Witney Town Centre starting probably at Marriott's Walk until 12 noon and then elsewhere in the Town Centre. Beginners will have opportunities to have a go.

Saturday July 16th, 11am - 12 noon. We will be repeating our demonstration in Witney Town Centre as detailed on Saturday June 11th (above)

Saturday July 23rd, Our Day of Dance with 5 other sides starting at The Square, Stow-on-the-Wold, touring six other Cotswold villages and finishing in Ducklington; 5.30pm (approx) at the Strickland Arms and 7pm (approx) at The Bell with an informal session of music and song.

Further details from Peter West on 01869 601451 or 07800992415

or e-mail :- badger@ducklington.vianw.co.uk or badgerducklington@ntlworld.com

or see our website:- www.ducklingtonmorris.org.uk



DUCKLINGTON & HARDWICK PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

60th ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW

- The 60th Annual Flower show has a new start time. **Gates open at 1pm!**
Stalls & Special Arena available from 1pm, Marquee open to public at 2pm
- Arena has a great line up including, Ducklington Bell Ringers, Local Band 'Crazy Taxi', Falconry Static Display, 'Smartie Artie' to name only a few.
- Children's Entertainer entertaining all afternoon with balloon animals & magic.
- Professional face painter for young and old alike.
- Amazing prizes in this years raffle, definitely worth buying a book or two!
- The D.H.P.A will be making a donation to St Bartholemew's Church towards their current fundraising from the money raised at the show!

Just a reminder..

Children's Fancy Dress Competition's theme is Kings and Queens of history

Winners will be crowned King & Queen of the show! Open to all children of primary school age!

Six-a-side Football will start around 1pm, if you wish to enter this year or would like more information.

Please contact **Steve Townsend on 778142**

If you would like the chance to showcase your group in the arena this year.

Please contact **Helen Straine on 709356**

If you wish to donate a prize towards the raffle. Please contact **Sarah Stanley on 772334**

If you wish to donate to the tombola. Please contact **Joy Cooke or Lorraine Harris on 771844** or leave in the donation box outside 30 Fielden Close, Ducklington.

If you wish to have a stall at the show or have any questions regarding.

Please contact **Terry Hunt on 779164**

If you wish to volunteer your help setting up before or on the day.

Please contact **Chris Woodward on 705409**

Follow us on **FACEBOOK** 'Ducklington & Hardwick Produce Association' and **TWITTER**

'Duckflowershow' for updates on prizes, events, stalls, Shows and much, much more!

Finally we really hope that you can join us on the 29th August 2011 to help with our special celebration for 60 years of Ducklington & Hardwick Produces Associations Annual Flower Show.

DUCKLINGTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

DUCKLINGTON SPORTS CLUB (DSC)

Club Update

The club completed its AGM in early May, a time which generally coincides with the culmination of the football season and the early 'knockings' of the cricket season.

On reflection of the past 12-months, it has been another year of steady upward progress. We have seen similar numbers in membership as last year, with some teams dropping out to be replaced by others, making the overall numbers pretty constant year on year.

In a club with a football team at almost every youth age group and 5 adult football teams we have witnessed variable results and placings, but on reflection we have probably attended more cup finals and finished in higher positions than for many a year. Our cricket teams are in a transitional period, but as everyone knows cricket is the long game and our plans are geared towards the future, plus we value participation above all.

If you are interested in playing cricket, at youth or adult level then make yourself known. We are always looking for players and also have a few umpiring roles to fill.

If you are interested in any cricket activity, Playing, Coaching or Umpiring then please contact David Duthie, or email the Club via our website.

We are now concentrating on fund-raising activities for the new building and determining, now that we have charitable status, how best to leverage that status. We have been working more closely with the Parish Council as we need their advice and support to make this a success.

Summer Dance 2011 & Next Quiz Night

Put Friday 26th August in your diary, as this is the date we will be having our annual Summer Dance at Glebelands. Using the same venue as last year, one can expect food and drink from a barbeque and our well-stocked bar. There will be dancing and live music performed by local groups. Under-14's that are accompanied by an adult will be allowed free admission.

Friday 10th June at 8.00pm is the date and time of our next **Quiz Night**. Teams of up to 5 people. Entrance fee is £10 per team. £50 first prize and spot prizes, such as a free drinks round. Sandwiches are provided.

250 Club

We are still reviewing the situation with the 250-Club and have not made a decision on this yet.

Booking The Club

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

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 August/September issue is 15 July prompt

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>

WANTED – in good condition
A Ladies bike (not a racing bike)

Tel: Sarah 709886
and a chicken house



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07733 686462



We are a family home that looks after your dog whilst you are away. We invite your dog to live with us in our home, we are not a kennels but a family home in Ducklington, max of 4 well socialised dogs, we offer Day care and overnight boarding. References available – sniff out our great Website

Come round and meet us, no commitment, We charge a standard £20 a day from 7am - 7pm or £30 for two dogs per day. Our overnight rates start at £20 a night

For a no commitment chat and availability

Ring: Allan 07519 667770

Email: dogholiday@hotmail.co.uk

www.witneydogcare.co.uk