

The Link MARCH 2022

News and information covering Tadmarton and Swalcliffe



My name is Sarah Harrison and I live locally in Hook Norton – you may have seen me running through Taddy with my rescue col-lie or enthusiastically participating in the bottle & chocolate tombola at Tadmarton village events! My partner Stephen Yeomans and his family are well known residents of the village.

Read my story and fundraiser information on page 2 and 3
Every penny raised goes to Cancer Research UK!

Tadmarton Village Website
www.tadmartonvillage.co.uk

Swalcliffe Village Website
www.swalcliffevillage.co.uk

Stephen and I rehomed our collie a couple of years ago after he had spent the early part of his life in a city. He had not been socialised with people or other dogs and had very little training. He has come on in leaps and bounds and can now usually pass as a well mannered, respectable dog – but we still have a little way to go to get him to where we want him to be. He is however, great company and he is the best running partner I could ever hope for!

Feeling frustrated by the various (understandable) Covid restrictions, in February 2021 I enrolled on the “couch to 5k” programme. I have now decided to try and run a marathon for charity! Having lost two of my grandparents to cancer I am trying to raise £5,000 for Cancer Research UK by completing the London Marathon.

Cancer survival rates have doubled over the past 40 years. Consistent progress is being made but improvements to technology and ground-breaking work offer new opportunities to find different ways to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer and improve survival rates even further. With your support I can help Cancer Research UK improve results even faster.



**Check out page 3 on how you can help
Sarah and Cancer research**

Ways you can help:

1. Please make a donation directly to my fundraising page (follow the link or scan the QR code).
2. Please buy a ticket in my fundraising raffle (a sneak preview of prizes include – a golf lesson at Tadmorton Heath Golf Club, a 1-1 dog training session with dog behaviour specialist Nicole Thomas at K-9 Balance, a horse massage by Helen Wallbank of Equilibria Equine and a luxury hamper).
3. Come along and enjoy my music and quiz night at Tadmorton Village Hall in Spring 2022, (date to be confirmed). Local acoustic duo 'Alian' will be performing.



<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/sarahs-london-marathon-2031>

Every penny raised goes to Cancer Research UK and every penny counts!!

Thank you!!

(Please also wave if you see me running by!)

Sarah



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IMPORTANT!

**Last copy date for the
APRIL issue is the
17th of MARCH**

**Articles received LATE will
NOT be included in the next
issue.**

Tadmarton Parish Councillors

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Kevin Tomblin <i>Vice Chair</i>	788342
Paul Higley	788447
Christine Coles, <i>Parish Clerk</i>	276229

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Here are the services for Swalcliffe Church in March:

Sunday 13th March – 9.30am Holy Communion
(The Rev'd Neil Bowler)

Sunday 20th March – 6.00pm Evensong
(The Rev'd Neil Bowler)

Sunday 27th March – 4.30pm Mothers' Day Service
(The Rev'd Neil Bowler)

In addition there will be Benefice Services of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes on Ash Wednesday 2nd March at Epwell at 9.30am and at Sibford at 7.00pm; and a Benefice Eucharist at 11.00am on Sunday 6th March at Broughton (led by the Rev'd Canon John Tattersall).

Notes from your editor!

Wow, what a bumper issue we have this month, thank you to everyone who has supplied me with “stuff” to include, much appreciated.

Page 1-3 introduce us to Sarah whom I hope will do well in her quest for the £5000 fundraiser. Running 5 half Marathons followed by a full is no easy feat. Please go to her fundraising page if you feel you can. Alternatively feel free to drop off any donations at any of the Tadmorton Village Hall events in a clearly marked envelope.

Fancy having a go at composting now the council is charging for the brown bin, read on how to....on page 9.

Of-course the Archives are here, Swalcliffe is very lucky to have a Colin Hill in their midst. It is fascinating how things have changed, but not really.

We have the usual village hall updates and KHH information, and it's the time of the year for the Horti show details.

Have a look at the TVH Lottery ticket. It is a bargain and a great fundraiser for the hall.

Our IT wizard has worked out to link the advertisers to our website , advertising in The Link is a great way to get your name out into the villages. So if you are just starting up a new business or need to boost a current one, here is your chance. Please note that the smallest advert is now 1/4 of an A5 page. This allows for a reasonable sized font and fair amount of details.

It looks like there are going to be quite a few events on in the coming months, to celebrate the fact that we are allowed out and of course to celebrate the jubilee of the queen. If you have any **charity** events you would like to see advertised in The Link (Providing there is a space) give me a shout.

I hope to see you all around and look forward to your articles for the next issue by the 17th of March.

And to top it all



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National Composting Week 14 – 20th March

With prices going through the roof, climate change concerns and the introduction of the paid for garden waste bins you may be thinking about how to help the environment & save some money. Home composting can help reduce green waste and give you an amazing resource for free. Some may have tried before and things have not gone so well, so here is a quick guide:



Make sure there is enough oxygen - to get compost more quickly ideally the contents of compost bins/heaps would be mixed up (turned) regularly, usually with a garden fork. This introduces air and moves stuff from the edge of the pile, which will be breaking down slowly, to the middle where it will break down more quickly, as that is where it is hottest. Don't worry though if you can't turn it, as with time it will become compost.

Control the water - the organisms in the heap also need water to survive. If there's too much water, it will be difficult for them to access oxygen and the composting process will be slow. Compost should have the water content of a wrung sponge.

Balance carbon and nitrogen (the science!) - in most composting systems, you want a 50/50 ratio between ingredients that are high in nitrogen and carbon. 'Greens' are high nitrogen including food waste/peelings (fruit & veg only and not cooked), annual weeds, and grass clippings. 'Browns' are high carbon including tree prunings, twigs and hedge clippings, woodchip, paper/cardboard and straw. Keeping these in balance will provide the organisms in your compost with the food they need to survive and helps control the water content. Don't add too much of anything at the same time and if adding big things, chopping them up into smaller pieces will help things break down quicker. If you just put in grass cuttings you are likely to get a slimy mess!

A happy compost heap shouldn't smell bad as that is a sign that it has not got enough oxygen, so turn it or add materials like woodchips or scrunched up newspaper, which can add air pockets. You may also need to reduce the water content by adding more browns.

Why not give it a go? Here are some useful websites to help you on your way:

<https://www.gardenersworld.com/how-to/maintain-the-garden/how-to-make-compost/>

<https://www.daviddomoney.com/compost/>

<https://replenishoxfordshire.com/>

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FROM the ARCHIVES

THE SEVEN VILLAGES OF SWALCLIFFE

It was reading the phrase “the seven villages of Swalcliffe” in the Victoria County History (VCH) that caught my interest. I wanted to find out why Swalcliffe was considered to contain so many villages, and when, and which they were. The researches that followed have sent me down a fascinating route deep into Anglo-Saxon English and church history. What follows is a mere summary of the story that unfolded before me.

We know people have lived in Swalcliffe since prehistoric times from the evidence they left through the Neolithic, Bronze and Iron ages. There is substantial evidence from the late Iron Age and Roman periods when it seems Swalcliffe had become an important and busy place, but what do we know about the history of the parish and the Anglo-Saxon settlement that became Swalcliffe?

The Roman imperial withdrawal in the early 5th century plunged Britain into the so called “Dark Ages”, a period of economic regression during which pagan Germanic immigrants began to settle in Britain and assimilate into Roman-British Society, becoming the people we now know as the Anglo-Saxons. As this era unfolded what would become England then consisted of a collection of smaller, often antagonistic, proto-kingdoms. There was no settlement greater than a few hundred people, no silver coinage and little trade, and the country was still largely Pagan.

Christianity reached Britain during the Roman period. Nearby at Wigginton was a wealthy Roman villa where a lead tank decorated with Christian symbols was found, dated to the 4th or 5th century, but it was not until the 6th and 7th Centuries that organised Christianity began to become widespread through conversion of the Anglo Saxon kingdoms by missionaries from of Rome and Ireland. This conversion was often “top down” beginning with the Saxon Royalty and women were often the first to convert. The social and cultural impact was enormous. There was a rapid growth in learning, literacy and writing with the adoption of Latin, and written law codes and charters dealt increasingly with property and transfer rights. This was accompanied by a significant growth in population, the formation of larger Saxon kingdoms, and the beginnings of the “hide” and “hundred” system of land definition and taxation, which laid the foundations for later county boundaries. A network of religious houses known as *mynster* (in Old English) or *monasterium* (in Latin) began to grow; these names were interchangeable general terms for any Saxon religious community. Establishments could be large or small, male or female, secular or episcopal, sometimes found in combination as “double houses”, and usually connected with a *royal vill*. They became powerful centres of religious and political power and of education; they followed a variety of *rules* established by their creators and were often staffed initially by secular clergy who could own property and marry.

But the stability of the political and religious powers of the *old minsters* increasingly came under attack during the 9th century as the Danish (or Viking) raids on the Saxon kingdoms increased. Although *Oxenfordschyre* was not mentioned by name until AD1010 the Saxon boundaries of what became Oxfordshire were laid out in AD912 by Edward the Elder, son of

King Alfred, in an attempt to organise defence against the Danes. This was partially successful: we learn from a fragment of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (now lost, but quoted by the 12th Century Latin writer John of Worcester) that soon after, in AD913, the marauding Danes came to raid Hook Norton:

After Easter the pagan army from Northampton and Leicester plundered Oxfordshire, and killed many men in the royal vill Hook Norton and in many other places

The description of this place as a **royal vill** implies the existence at Hook Norton of a royal hall with other ancillary buildings and an important church in the form of an **Old Minster**. The exact location of this attack and the **royal vill** has not been proved archeologically but Blair argues that it occurred on the high ground of Tadmarton Heath, close to the hillfort of Tadmarton Camp (now Tadmarton Heath Golf Club). Nearby is a piece of the historic glebeland of Hook Norton parish church, suggesting an early religious presence there, and close by that location are the “holy well” and the place where five parishes now converge like the segments of a circle. This suggests a large tract of Saxon royal land stretching between Northamptonshire and Warwickshire representing what today we would call a parish. Swalcliffe and its surrounding villages would have been a small part of that larger territory.

Reorganisation of the Saxon ecclesiastical holdings had already been in progress since at least AD850 and towards the end of the 10th century a major transformation of the church was being realised. This responded to serious criticisms of conduct by Bede and was led by the bishops Aethelwold (of Winchester), Dunstan (of Canterbury) and Oswald (of Worcester and York). One result was the imposition of the rule of St Benedict and the establishment of numerous Benedictine monasteries which followed stricter rules than the old minsters.

Another result was that the old minsters gradually lost their power and began to be dismantled, an example of which was the breakup of Hook Norton’s royal vill with its minster church and parish in the 10th century. It was divided into five new parishes, namely those of Hook Norton, Wigginton, Bloxham, Tadmarton and, largest of them all, Swalcliffe. All these new parishes radiated away from the suggested location of the regia villa on Tadmarton Heath. Thus was created the parish of Swalcliffe which would remain unchanged for another nine centuries.

Though smaller than the original Saxon parish of the regia villa the new Swalcliffe parish was still very large by today’s standards. At 6,946 acres it was several times larger than the other four new parishes, which may indicate that its importance was already established. When created, the parish contained the villages of Sibford Ferris, Burdrop, Sibford Gower (originally “Great Sibford” in 13thC), Shutford, Epwell, Swalcliffe Lea and Swalcliffe itself. These are the “seven villages” with which this story began. At the heart of this parish was the “mother church” of Swalcliffe. Whether Swalcliffe church represented a “minster” is unclear, but certainly it would have fulfilled some elements of that role in its early years.

It is difficult to know what form religious observance took in the Anglo Saxon period under the old minsters and under their various local “rules”. Preaching and baptisms are likely to have been performed locally by clergy traveling out from the minster, initially in the open air at “field churches, or under preaching crosses, with baptisms performed at auspicious sources of water. However if certain rites such as burial and perhaps marriage were reserved to the minster, the inconvenience of the long trek from some settlements is likely to have encouraged the building of local chapels. There is almost no record of these until the village churches we know today were built during the great growth of church building in the 10th to 12th centuries.

By the time of the Norman conquest the shape of England was largely as we know it today. It was comparatively peaceful and prosperous with a thriving silver coinage, and there were dozens of towns, ports and cities. Christianity was well-established, there were sixteen cathedrals, about sixty monasteries and thousands of churches and chapels. The manorial structure of Norman England began to develop the familiar pattern of Manor House with adjacent chapel or church, the acquisition of land and the payment of taxes to the Hundred in which they were situated. Each of the manors developed their own patterns of land tenure and ownership. Swalcliffe became a place of few but large farms and a largely agricultural community, whilst the Sibfords had a large number of smaller owner-occupiers and became home to a thriving plush industry.

By the 12th century each of the villages in Swalcliffe Parish had built new chapels and churches. Probably the first of these new churches to be built in Swalcliffe parish was in Swalcliffe itself during the hundred years before the Norman conquest. Swalcliffe's Saxon church still stands, much altered, within our church where it forms the present nave. Some of its original Saxon walls and two windows are still clearly visible.

The history of the first chapels in the outlying villages of Swalcliffe parish is difficult to trace since detailed historical records are scarce. It is known that in addition to the substantial new Saxon church in Swalcliffe there were "chapelries" in Epwell, Shutford, Swalcliffe Lea and Sibford Gower though by the 16th century only the chapels at Shutford and Epwell survived. The term "chapel" defines their ecumenical status rather than building style, so although technically "chapelries" from the 11th to 19th centuries, they quickly developed the form of the small parish churches familiar to us today.

In Sibford Gower. (from the Saxon *Sibbas's Ford*) or "Great Sibford" as it was known in the 13th century, there was a stone-built chapel by 1153, granted to the Knights Templars by Agnes of Sibford, and a burial ground by the end of that century. The Templars were founded in 1118, so this may give the earliest probable date for a chapel at Sibford. Under the Templars the chapel was independent of the mother church Swalcliffe and after Pope Clement V disbanded the Templars in 1307 (under pressure from King Philip IV of France who was deeply in debt to them) the chapel passed to the Order of Knights Hospitalers. For some time it had its own curate independent of the mother church of Swalcliffe, though later it was annexed to Swalcliffe and was served by the curate of Shutford. The Hospitalers' properties in England were taken from them by Henry VIII in 1540, and when the King's commissioners visited Sibford in 1547 they found "an ancient church ... fallen into decay". It was of rough stone, with a lead and timber roof which had been slated, little glass, and two bells. By 1560 it was a ruin with no services held and was granted to George Howard. Today there are no remains and its location still remains uncertain.

Sibford's new church: For three centuries after the loss of their ancient chapel the worshippers of Sibford were obliged to make the long trek, sometimes bearing coffins, over hill and field to Swalcliffe church. But due to falling attendance there in the 19th century a public fund was raised to build a new church in Sibford, on land gifted by Rev. William Gilkes, to serve the Sibfords and Burdrop. Holy Trinity Church was consecrated on 17th June 1840 and a new ecclesiastical parish was created for Sibford in 1841. This was the first division of Swalcliffe parish since its creation in the 10th century.

Shutford's chapel in the form of St Martin's Church, is first mentioned in 1404, but the building dates from the 12th century. There was a burial ground by 1699. The relationship of this chapel with Swalcliffe was not straightforward due to the Hundred boundaries. It was the

subject of many disputes since not all of Shutford lay within the bounds of this chapelry. Lord Saye and Sele of Broughton (in Bloxham Hundred) held Shutford East manor and kept a private chapel there from time to time which his tenants attended.

Epwell was another Saxon settlement (*Eoppas-welle*) and the church with the status of chapel, dedicated to St Anne, appears to be of 13th century origin. It is first mentioned in 1360/1 when a chaplain at Epwell is mentioned in the will of the rector of Swalcliffe. It had a new chaplain's house in 1416 and Richard Gylkes, carpenter to New College, was employed for work to the chapel between 1423 and 1433. Epwell appears to have had its own graveyard from 16th century. In 1552 the tower had a ring of two bells, as it does today. In 1905 Epwell became a rectory and was added to the new Sibford parish created in 1841.

Swalcliffe Lea: The Lea or simply "Lee", as it was known in early times (a "lea" or "ley" being a meadow) originally lay in Shutford tithing and was then known as "Shutford le Lea" but later as "Swalcliffe Lea". Records of the medieval settlement and its chapel are scarce, but their locations almost certainly overlie earlier Roman and perhaps Anglo-Saxon settlement. We know the Lea had one of Swalcliffe's three manors, and a chapel was in existence by 1227 when Ralph of Wilby endowed a chaplain for a Chantry Chapel there. From the Roll of the Hundreds in 1279-80 we know that the chapel at "La Lee" was attended by the vicar of Swalcliffe to celebrate mass three times a week. Fourteen people were assessed for poll tax totaling 31s 6d in 1327. In 1334 the tax burden had risen to 46s 2d and 1377 the population had doubled 38, half the number for Swalcliffe itself. In 1441 and 1652 the Lea was assessed for "certainty money" payable by Banbury Hundred of which, with all of Swalcliffe, it formed part. By the 16th century the chapel had gone and in 1598 the manor had reduced to 6 houses, doubtless due to enclosure. In 1718 Richard Rawlinson saw ruined houses in the field known as "the town" being robbed of stone for road building and all that remains now is the manor house (Lower Lea House) and a small cluster of comparatively recent dwellings.

Despite the building of churches in the outlying hamlets, Swalcliffe parish remained undivided for nine centuries until 1841, with the creation of Sibford parish, and again in 1905 when Epwell joined Sibford parish. Today all the churches formerly in Swalcliffe parish have their own parishes and, together with Tadmarton and Broughton churches, form part of the modern Wykeham Benefice under the diocese of Oxford.

This article only scratches the surface of a fascinating subject and is far shorter than the article I began writing, which will have to await publication in its full form in the future. Interested readers can find out much more in the books listed below. *Written by Colin Hill*

PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION and FURTHER READING

VCH: The Victoria County History, Oxfordshire, Volume X, available online at www.british-history.ac.uk

MORRIS, M., 2021, *The Anglo-Saxons - A History of the Beginning of England*

BLAIR, J., 1986, *Hook Norton regia villa*, *Oxoniensia* 51, 1986 pp63-67

BLAIR, J., 2005, *The Church in Anglo Saxon Society*

This and all other *From the Archives* articles are available electronically from the Swalcliffe Society. Copies can be requested by emailing swalcliffe.society@gmail.com

If you have or find anything of local interest the Swalcliffe Society would love to see it and have an opportunity to copy and digitize it. If you would like to contribute or find out more please feel free to phone 01295 788127. **Colin Hill, Barn Well Cottage, Swalcliffe.**

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Sibford Surgery announcement

It is with regret that we announce that Dr David Spackman is retiring from the partnership at Sibford Surgery.

David joined the practice 34 years ago, initially working alongside Dr Agnew and Dr Heath and for the last 20 years with Dr Haskew. David will be greatly missed. However he is not hanging up his stethoscope completely and will continue to work at the practice, usually on a Wednesday, for the forthcoming months.

We will make a further announcement before he finishes completely.

Dr Barney Fontaine will be joining the practice team from the 1st of February. Dr Fontaine completed his specialist training in General Practice in the South West, worked overseas and recently has been working in London.

We look forward to welcoming him to the practice.

Dr Fontaine will be consulting Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and alternative Fridays and will be running diabetic clinic.

Dr Haskew will be consulting Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and alternative Fridays.

We continue to aim to provide a responsive and personal medical service at the practice. Although most of our appointments are available to book in advance we always keep some to be booked on the day in case there is an urgent need. It helps us if these appointments are used appropriately and not for matters that could wait until the next routine slot, otherwise it gets very hard to manage work load. Although you may think your problem will only take a few minutes those few minutes add up when there are 3000 other patients who may also need our time!

Thank you for your continued support of the practice and dispensary and for the gifts received at Christmas which were much appreciated.

Emma Haskew



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Toby (Head) explains, 'At Sibford, we value holistic education where the happiness and well-being of pupils is paramount. We encourage pupils to live adventurously, and foster resilience and we look for the unique talents in every individual that comes to the school.

Sibford School is offering a whole school open morning on Friday 29 April which offers the opportunity to talk to staff, meet current parents and take a tour of the school with student guides.

If you are interested in entry for September 2023 and beyond, or perhaps for immediate entry, we encourage you to come along and learn more about what we offer here at Sibford.

Sibford School is set on a 50-acre campus that offers a junior school, senior school and separate Sixth Form, as well as its own forest school, a state-of-the-art climbing wall and 25 metre swimming pool.

The school offers a gifted and talented programme for the most able pupils, a wide range of sporting opportunities and an excellent support for learning department to support those students with additional learning requirements.

Scholarships and bursaries are also available.

Don't miss out and book your place today online at www.sibfordschool.co.uk/events, or call Elspeth Dyer, Admissions Officer on 01295 781 203.

BROUGHTON CASTLE SPORTIVE 2022



Sunday July 10th 2022

Gates open at 0600am

- all profits to local area charities
- Our 4 longer routes will give you a great cycling experience and a great day out in the beautiful Cotswolds
- Start and end at Broughton Castle
- Feeding stations at intervals on all routes
- Full para-medical support, Raynet VHF radio network across region & sweeper vans



- **Cotswold Beast** – 100 miles – all new routes
 - £34 entry – advance booking rate / £40 on the day
- **Windrush Endurance** – 75 miles – new distance / new route
 - £31 entry – advance booking rate / £35 on the day
- **Cotswold Classic** – 50 miles – all new routes
 - £28 entry – advance booking price / £30 on the day
- **Cotswold Tour** – 20 miles of local routes
 - £23 entry – advance booking price / £25 on the day
- **Family Fun ride** – 5 miles local tour for families of all ages
 - £5 entry – advance booking price / £6 on the day

****Payment - on the day entries will be strictly by debit / credit card only****



Need more information or ready to register?

www.broughtoncastlesportive.co.uk



RAISING THE ROOF OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BANBURY

Banbury Choral Society will raise the roof of St. Mary's Church with a concert of JS Bach's masterpiece **St John Passion** on **Saturday 2 April at 7.30pm**. The Choir will be accompanied by the St James' Players, an authentic Baroque ensemble from London, with a line up of bright young soloists on the verge of their careers, including **Mollie Smith** (soprano), **Rosamond Thomas** (contralto) and **Christopher Willoughby** (tenor), all under the baton of the choir's inspirational conductor, **Julian Harris**.

Bach *St John Passion* is intensely dramatic with an overriding message of compassion, hope and ultimate salvation, and is one of the most demanding, and rewarding, works for a choir to perform. It will be sung in German. This oratorio was first performed on Good Friday in Leipzig in April 1724. The Banbury choir will perform this masterpiece in English, with some German interpolations.

Julian Harris said: *It is an absolute privilege to conduct this wondrous masterpiece again. It is, undoubtedly, one of the greatest works of genius ever written, and created by the mind of the greatest genius that ever lived. Page after page drips with inspiration and emotion, telling the most dramatic and powerful story ever told. It really is an evening like no other and not to be missed.*

This marks the 80th anniversary of Banbury Choral Society, originally founded by Geoffrey Furnish and known as the Banbury Co-operative Choral Society. Banbury Choral Society goes from strength to strength and attracts members from Oxfordshire, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire.

Tickets *St John Passion*: £15 (£5 under 16s)

from www.banburychoralsoc.co.uk;



Calling all green-fingered gardeners!

Keen gardeners are being invited to take part in Katharine House's popular Open Gardens scheme this summer.

The hospice has just launched its Open Gardens scheme for 2022 and is calling for green-fingered residents to sign up and help raise much needed funds.

As part of the Open Gardens scheme, residents in local villages open up their beautiful gardens to the public, raising money for the hospice in the process, with whole villages often getting involved. Visitors are asked to either buy tickets or make a donation in return for a blooming marvellous day out.

Community and Events Manager Cherida Plumb: "The ever-popular Open Gardens for Katharine House have given a vast amount of pleasure to thousands of people over the years and are also a great opportunity for you to show off your gardening handywork!"

"We've been very touched by the enthusiasm of our supporters to open their gardens for us over the years and are looking forward to seeing how the gardens have developed over the last year, and being introduced to new ones too."

Katharine House provides specialist palliative care for adults with life-limiting conditions across North Oxfordshire, South Warwickshire, and South Northamptonshire, relying on generous donations from local businesses and its local community.

To find out more about the Open Gardens scheme, contact Sandra Price on GetInvolved@khh.org.uk or visit our website at khh.org.uk/gardens.

For all Katharine House media enquiries, please contact Karen Welsh on ka-ren.welsh@khh.org.uk or 07969 992416.

Katharine House Hospice:

Katharine House Hospice is an adult hospice which opened in 1991 and supports people and their families who are facing life-limiting illness.

Last year the hospice cared for over 900 people in our local community and is available to a population of 176,000 in north Oxfordshire, south Northamptonshire and south Warwickshire.

Main areas supported by Katharine House include areas and villages around Banbury, Bicester, Brackley, Byfield, Chipping Norton, Priors Marston, Shipston-on-Stour, Woodford Halse.

Though based at a purpose-built hospice in Adderbury, Katharine House, working in partnership with Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust cares for people at the hospice, in their own homes, in care homes, and in the Horton hospital.

TADMARTON 250 CLUB

It's that time of year again, Taddy folk! If you had tickets for 2021/22, you will be contacted to see if you wish to purchase tickets for 2022/23.

If you missed out last year and would like to join in, then please give either Mery (780451) or Helen (780426) a call.

Draws are held monthly – 61 prizes to be won throughout the year from £5 to £60!!

Tickets cost £6.00 per year

<u>Total Prize Money to be Distributed Each Month</u>	
March 2022	£35.00
April 2022	£65.00
May 2022	£35.00
June 2022	£35.00
July 2022	£110.00
August 2022	£35.00
September 2022	£35.00
October 2022	£65.00
November 2022	£35.00
December 2022	£165.00
January 2022	£35.00
February 2022	£35.00
	£685.00



All Proceeds in aid of Tadmarton Village Hall Trust

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK!!!!!!

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On the beautiful north coast in Poldark country, character cottage set in a large south-facing enclosed garden, is available for holiday lets.

Scrumbles Hollow sleeps six in three double bedrooms, one with ensuite shower room, plus a family bathroom. Full central heating.

The spacious cottage has an open fire place in a cosy sitting room, while the dining room boasts a log burner. Fully equipped kitchen and separate utility room for sorting out sportswear after a day on the beach or walking the breath-taking countryside.

Lots of good local pubs and restaurants, shops and galleries. Excellent public transport connections, including Newquay airport (half an hour by car).

For more information, please contact Linda on 01295 780 242 or 07973 226 032 or ***lindalaneyolo@gmail.com***

TADMARTON VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Our next monthly **Coffee Morning** 10 am – 11.30 am will held be on Saturday 12th March.

Seniors Lunch Club - every 4th Friday of the month. Contact Shirley on 780596 for details.

Tuesday Coffee Morning - every week 10.30 am to 12 noon.

Computer Club – 1st Tuesday of the month 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Contact Pat Pierce on 722643 for details.

Fancy a dance then come along to **Tadmarton Folk Dancing Club** – Tuesdays 7.45pm to 9.45pm.

Tadmarton Film Club – 2 showings to choose from:

Last Saturday of the month @ 7.30pm and following Wednesday @ 1.30pm

We have two activities for children – **Kids Film Club** every 2nd Saturday of the month at 3pm and **Kids & Caffeine** last Saturday of the month 10am – 12 noon.

Lookout for details of our new group - **Sewing in Company**

If you wish to make a booking, please do so on our online booking system at www.tadmartonvillage.co.uk/village-hall or if you would like to join our happy band of volunteers, please contact us.

Jane Fitzpatrick

jane@leisure-interiors.com

Tel: 780451 or 07711 794133

Helen Yeomans

helen@barncroftbook-keeping.co.uk

Tel: 780426 or 07947 724502



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GIVE AND TAKE EVENT WITH REPAIR CAFE

Saturday 12 March, 11am-1pm
(Drop off items from 10.30am)



The Haven, Calthorpe Street, Banbury

- Bring and swap clothes, books, toys, small household items
- Plant and seed swaps
- Repairs of small electrical items

**FREE ENTRY, FREE REFRESHMENTS,
FREE TO GIVE AND TAKE.**

Donations welcome.



Looking for a home from home?

Sympathetically renovated, fully furnished, self catering cottage to let in the quiet village location of Lower Tadmarton.

*Only 4 miles from Banbury
Available for short breaks, or short and medium term lets.*

(Special rates for 6-12 weeks let).

1 double bedroom, 1 Twin bedroom, Living Room with convertible corner settee. Upstairs and Downstairs Wet-Rooms, Gorgeous kitchen with views over mature gardens, Utility room, Wheel-chair friendly, Dogs welcome, Cosy Log burner. Temperature controlled electric heating, throughout. Private gardens. Off road parking for 1-2 vehicles,

For more information please contact Jane or Mery on:

Home: 01295780451, Jane: 07711794133, Mery: 07794950664

Email: Lavendercottagelet@gmail.com

Swalcliffe Village - Hold the Dates! Queens Jubilee Celebrations!

Thursday 2nd June through to Sunday 5th June we are planning several events to celebrate HRH Queen Elizabeth's 70 years reign!

Look out in next months issue for further details of some wonderful activities that we hope you can all join in!



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TRUSTEES WANTED - Campaign to Protect Rural England—Oxfordshire

Do you care about your local countryside?
Want to make a difference?

CPRE Oxfordshire is the voice of the countryside in Oxfordshire. Due to retirement of current members, we are looking for new trustees to join our team.

This is an excellent opportunity to play an influential role in a respected and long-standing environmental charity, applying your experience to make a real difference and to be part of a friendly group that is passionate about the Oxfordshire countryside.

Application deadline is **31 March 2022** in the first instance, but we are happy to receive expressions of interest on an ongoing basis.

For further info, please contact our Branch Secretary Dorian Grier.

E: dorian.cpre@gmail.com

T: 01491 612079

See our website for more information: www.cpreoxon.org.uk



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**KATHARINE
HOUSE
HOSPICE**

www.khh.org.uk.

Springing into action

Just like this time of year, we've got lots of exciting things coming up! From new partnerships and improvements, to a whole range of incredible events to raise money for our hospice. It's thanks to your ongoing support, we can continue to care for local people and families when they need us the most.

New lease of life for Banbury shop

We're excited to announce that we have signed a new 10-year lease and will be staying right where we are – at the heart of the Banbury community.

But that's not all. We will also be giving our Banbury shop some TLC with a revamp that will make the most of all the fantastic donations we receive, as well as improve the shopping experience.

Recycle more with Paw Paw

As part of an exciting recycling initiative, Paw Paw will donate 5p to Katharine House for every plastic container that is returned in good condition when a customer orders their next meal. It's great news for our hospice and also helps cut down on plastic waste! The recycling scheme runs across all three of Paw Paw's Chinese takeaways in Banbury, Leamington and Warwick.

Growing our Open Gardens

We're always touched by the enthusiasm of our supporters to open their gardens for us – and we'd love to see our events grow...

You can find out more about how to get involved and where this year's events will be taking place on our website. We already have six Open Garden events lined up! But keep checking back for others added throughout the year.

High and mighty

Are you looking for a BIG challenge this year? Then why not sign up for the world's highest static abseil? At a staggering 127 metres tall, the National Lift Tower in Northampton makes Big Ben look positively little! Our Extreme Abseil event is taking place on 2 April and we'd love YOU to be part of Team Katharine House and help us to raise money for our hospice.

A run for everyone

The Blenheim Fun Run is back and taking place on 15 May. Run, jog or walk in the spectacular grounds of the World Heritage site in Oxfordshire – and raise money for Katharine House at the same time. The beauty of the Blenheim Fun Run (aside from the stunning grounds) is that you can choose from the main 7km race, the 4-mile run suitable for buggies or wheelchairs, or the 1-mile route for under 15s. There's even an event for dogs so your four-legged friends don't miss out!

On your bike!

Are you ready for the ride of your life? The RideLondon-Essex 100 event is taking place on 29 May and we've managed to secure three places to ride in this highly sought-after event. If cycling 100 miles on traffic-free roads through the heart of London and neighbouring Essex sounds like the event for you, then sign up today.

Find out more

Head to our website for more details, events and news: www.khh.org.uk.

We all struggle with life's challenges from time to time. Talking with a counsellor is a tried and tested way of resolving confusion and negative emotions.

We offer safe affordable counselling by fully qualified therapists. For your **FREE ASSESSMENT** phone 01295 231320 or visit our website: www.banburytherapycentre.com for more information



BANBURY
THERAPY
GROUP



**St. Nicholas Church,
Tadmarton,
Church Services
Subject to Change RE: Covid Regulations**

March

Sunday 6th 11.00am Benefice Eucharist at Broughton (JT)

Zoom Services until further notice, for joining instructions please refer to the Benefice web site

www.wykehambenefice.org.uk and The Rector or The Revd. John Tattersall

Sundays (ZOOM) 6.00pm New look Benefice Evening Worship (NB)

Wednesdays (ZOOM) 6.00pm Benefice Evening prayer service (NB)

Every Tuesday in Tadmarton Church;

9.00am Morning Prayers (NB)

10.00am HC (NB)

Followed by coffee in Tadmarton Village Hall

Covid 19 protection systems are in place in all Benefice churches

Rector: The Revd. Neil Bowler (NB)

Tel: 01295 788005

The Revd. John Tattersall (JT)

Tel: 01295 780283



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I and my family would like to say a very big thank you, to all our friends neighbours, villagers and organisations for the support comfort and help given following Pat's death.

In such a cold sad time it was like having a warm blanket placed around our shoulders.

Thank you,
John Salethorn.



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COME AND SEE

Dear friends,

An invitation: Come and See is for anyone enquiring about faith, returning to faith after many years or moving to a new place in their faith in the disorientation of the pandemic. Why not come and join us in your local church here at Tadmarton and Swalcliffe through Lent and Easter?

Who is it for? It's an invitation to everyone, for everyone - for anyone who feels adrift, whether or not they know anything about the Christian faith.

Find out more: Come and See invites people to discover Christ for the first time and helps those who may have become distant from their faith, to reconnect once more with it, but also helps those with an established faith on their Christian discipleship journey.

How do you find out more? It couldn't be easier: you could come to one of the services or talks in your local church through Lent and Easter or join one of its online services, or you could give me a call and talk with me about it. You might also like to explore at home the material on the Oxford Diocese website:

www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see

For more details about all the things happening in the Wykeham Benefice you could also visit its website;

www.wykehambenefice.org.uk

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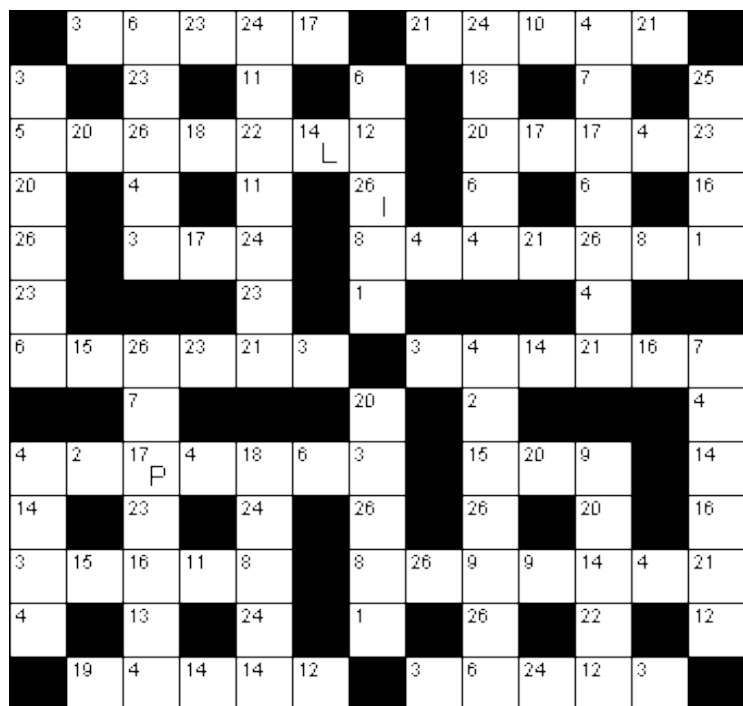
£10 for the first hour, £5 per hour thereafter

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Enquiries: Tracy 780710
 Or tracylean@gmail.com

Answers can be found on Page: 41

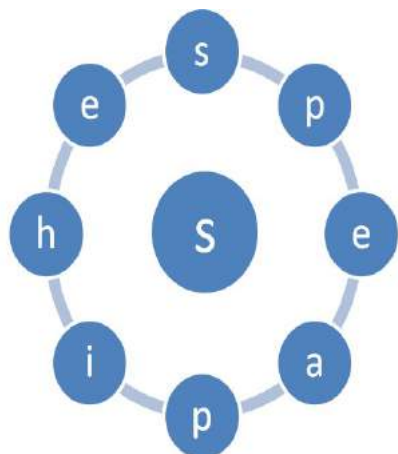


CODEWORDS

are like crossword puzzles - but have no clues! Instead, every letter of the alphabet has been replaced by a number, the same number representing the same letter throughout the puzzle. All you have to do is decide which letter is represented by which number! To start you off, we reveal the codes for two or three letters. When you've filled in these letters throughout the puzzle, you'll have enough clues to start guessing words and discovering other letters.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26



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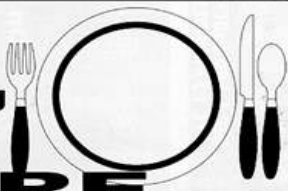
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NEW TIMETABLE. Additional bus-services between Stratford and Banbury are available please check their website for further details and updates

For the latest news 01564-797000 or via the website: www.johnsonskoaches.co.uk/

75+75A	Mon- Fri	Mon-Sat	Mon-Sat	Mon-Sat	Mon-Sat
Stratford upon Avon (adj Nat West Bank)	0615	0730	0915	1115	1315
Stratford upon Avon	0617	0732	0917	1117	1317
Ettington			0931	1131	1331
Halford			0937	1137	1337
Alderminster	0629				
Shipston on Stour	0639	0818	0947	1147	1347
Shipston on Stour (opp Garage)	0642	0821	0950	1150	1350
Lower Brailes	0650	0829	0958	1158	1358
Sibford Ferris	0658	0837	1006	1206	1406
Lower Tadmerton	0706	0845	1014	1214	1414
Banbury Bus Station	0721	0900	1029	1229	1429

75 + 75A	Mon-Sat	Mon-Sat	Mon-Sat	Mon-Sat
Banbury Bus Station	0935	1135	1435	1730
Lower Tadmerton	0945	1145	1445	1740
Sibford Ferris	0953	1153	1453	1748
Lower Brailes	1002	1202	1502	1757
Shipston on Stour (opp Garage)	1011	1211	1511	1806
Shipston on Stour	1014	1214	1514	1809
Halford	1023	1223		1818
Ettington	1029	1229		1824
Stratford upon Avon Opp Dale Ave	1036	1236		1831
Stratford upon Avon (adj Nat West Bank)	1045	1245	1601	1840

TADMARTON 250 CLUB WINNERS

December 2021

224 – Mark Tapper £60
 152 – Carolinne White £30
 80 – Vivienne Mitchell £20
 114 – Joyce Miller £15
 159 – Dave Whitney £10
 123 – Maria Quelch £10
 173 – Vi Masey £10
 134 – Carla Ellis £5
 201 – Roy Freeman £5



January 2022

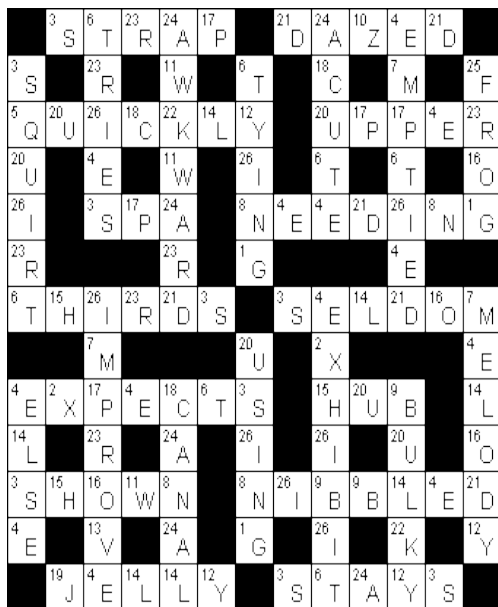
87 – Sue Holder £15
 150 – Martin Neil £10
 7 – Verne Koch £5
 234 – Helen Raine £5

February 2022

139 – Chris Jackson £15
 78 – Marion Youngman £10
 8 – Marie Alexander £5
 165 – I Clappison £5



CODEWORD SOLUTION march 2022



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9 letters: Happiness

SWALCLIFFE & TADMARTON HORTICULTURAL

At our next meeting we welcome Peter Tombs from Farnborough Nurseries who will be giving a:

'Demonstration of Hanging Baskets'

Thursday 10th March - 8pm

Tadmarton Village Hall

Spring Show – Saturday 9th April – Tadmarton Village Hall

The show schedule and entry form can also be found on the Society website: www.thehorti.co.uk

SWALCLIFFE & TADMARTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SPRING SHOW

**TADMARTON VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY, 9th APRIL 2022
2.30PM — 4 PM**

The 'TWO PARISHES TRAY' for the most points in Section A
 The 'MALCOLM BROWN VASE' for the best Daffodil in Section A
 The 'FLORAL TROPHY' for the best arrangement
 The 'CRAFT CUP' for the most points in Section B (B1 – 7 only)
 The 'CHARLES BRIMBLE CUP' for the most points in Section C
 The 'DAPHNE WOODWARD MEMORIAL TROPHY' for the Best Pot Plant in Section A
 The 'MEN'S COOKERY TRAY' for the best exhibit in Section B9
 The 'HANDICRAFT CUP' for the best Handicraft/Painting in Section B8

Tea, coffee and cake will be available in the hall during the afternoon

SECTION A

1. 3 stems of large trumpet daffodils Div.1
2. 3 stems of large cupped daffodils Div.2
3. 3 stems of small cupped daffodils Div.3
4. 3 stems of double flowering daffodils Div.4
5. 3 stems of jonquilla daffodils Div.7
6. 3 stems of miniature daffodils
7. 3 stems of any type not listed above e.g. poeticus, species etc.
8. Single bloom of any type of daffodil
9. 3 tulips - one variety
10. Single bloom of any type of tulip
11. 3 stems of hyacinth
12. 3 stems of the same of any other bulb or corm *
13. 3 stems of polyanthus *
14. 1 Bonsai
15. 3 stems of hellebore (orientalis type) *
16. Potted cactus – any size
17. Potted succulent – any size
18. Potted flowering plant not included above, up to and inc. 5" pot
19. Potted flowering plant not included above, over 5" pot
20. 5 stems of heather *
21. Potted foliage plant – any size
22. 3 stems of decorative shrub from one type *
23. 3 blooms of pansies *
24. 3 sticks of rhubarb

NOTE: Section A = All potted plants MUST have been in your possession for at least six months

*** Any Colour**

FLORAL TROPHY

'The Land of the Rising Sun' (Not to exceed 15" deep, 21" wide and 24" high)

SECTION B B1-7 for craft cup open to men and women

1. 1 jar Marmalade – 1lb approx. straight-sided jar
2. 1 jar Chutney – 1lb approx. straight-sided jar
3. Tea Bread (own recipe)
4. Cheese and Leek Quiche (own recipe)
5. Anzac Biscuits (own recipe)
6. 3 Gingerbread Muffins - decorated (own recipe)
7. A Floral Table arrangement suitable for a dinner party max. 12 inches overall.
8. A Hand-crafted Article/Painting (judged for handicraft cup)
9. 4 Millionaire's Shortbread (own recipe) (MEN'S COOKERY TRAY)

NOTES: Section B classes:

Use the size of tin stated.

Use jars that do not have wording on sides or lids. Fill jars to top. Label and date.

Do not use wax discs under metal screw tops

Tarts should be removed from tin and displayed on a plate.

Paper should be removed from bottom of cakes etc and No Doylies please.

B9 =Pre-purchased caramel sauce allowed.

SECTION C - Photography

1. Pond Life
2. The Hills are Alive
3. Cliff Edge
4. 4 Wheels or 2

Notes Section C: Photographs not to exceed 5" x 7" and in the event of a tie, the Judge's decision will be final.

SECTION Children (No entrée fee required)

5 and under A Vegetable Animal

10 and under Garden in a Seed Tray

14 and under 3 Chocolate Chip Cookies

Notes Section Children: Non resident children welcome. Ages to be displayed.

RULES :

1- All exhibitors (Excluding children) shall be members of the Society or reside in the parishes of Swalcliffe or Tadmarton.

2- Entry forms and fees 15p per entrée (20p on the day) to be submitted on Thursday 7th April between 7pm and 9pm. To Malcolm Moodie - 16 Old Glebe, Tadmarton.

Telephone 01295-788159 or email laeliam@aol.com entries accepted.

Entry prior to show day would be much appreciated. Odd late entries may be accepted at the Hall up to 10.30am on the day of the show. Please use your entry form; which the committee are always happy to help to complete.

3- The hall is open from 9am on the day of the show for the reception of exhibits, which must be staged by 11am. The hall will be closed to all but the committee at 11am prompt.

4- Exhibitors must stage articles for exhibition and competition. No vases or containers will be provided. The committee will not be responsible for any loss or damage.

5- No exhibit may be removed before 4pm.

6- Exhibitors may only exhibit one entry in any one class.

7- Points: All classes in Section 'A' and 'B' will be awarded as follows:

1st – 5 points 2nd – 3 points 3rd – 1 point

The committee will appoint competent judges, whose decision will be final!

Sew In Company

Tadmarton Village Hall 2nd Sunday of each month

1.30 - 4.30pm

Please come and join us for our monthly meet up.

Help and advice available to help you with your own sewing, knitting or crochet project.

All welcome, beginners to advanced.

Free but donations welcome to village hall and to help with additional materials.

For more information, please contact

Susan

heathfowler@gmail.com

07977567570

Charlotte

charlottetofield@gmail.com



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Education specialist with Fresh start in Education.

We continue to enjoy our Tuesday morning Eucharist Service led by Neil.

The coffee morning held in the Village Hall after the service is now very well attended, and it is a pleasure to chat to our dear friends and have delicious cake and freshly ground coffee.

All are welcome to this happy gathering.

Work is going on in the kitchen area with the groundwork nearly completed. It has certainly opened up the area and now we can appreciate the splendid Baptismal Font with interesting carvings in the stonework



The broken stone cross on the church roof might be fixed as the missing pieces have been retrieved from John Salethorn. Well done John for keeping them.

The church is looking into getting Wi-Fi, which means it will be able to stream services and provide Wi-Fi during church attendance.

The primroses are now fully out in the churchyard and they are a happy reminder of the Spring in the near future. We are looking forward to the colourful daffodils too.

The moss on the church path is being dealt with, this should make it safer for people who visit and who wish to enjoy the tranquility.

We are re-instating our Lent Lunch in Tadmorton Village Hall on the 29th March. The proceeds will be given to a charity of the PCC's choice. It is over two years since we have celebrated this very special occasion because of the dreaded COVID. Come along and enjoy a warming bowl of soup and lots more too! There will not be a Tuesday coffee morning that day, but coffee and delicious fruit cake is served after the soup at 12 noon.

We do have a basket in Church for donations of food for Polly. She is very grateful for this, so why not venture into our beautiful Church and sit and enjoy and if you wish pop a little something in the basket.

Nursery Places

Sibford Gower Primary School

We now offer nursery places for children from the term after their 3rd birthday in our dedicated Early Years Unit.

If you would like to know more about us or would like to explore whether we are the right setting for your child, please do get in touch.

If you would like to have a chat or arrange a visit, you can contact the school office at office.3005@sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk or by calling **01295 780270** during school hours.

We would love the opportunity to share the excellent practice of our Early Years staff in our caring and nurturing learning environment.

You can find further information on the Nursery Provision page of our school website at www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/nursery-provision including our admissions policy and an application form.



Our nursery parents say:

"My child is really enjoying being in nursery here. He loves his teachers."

"My child loves being able to play with the Reception children too. He is learning well from being with older children and is getting opportunities to do all sorts of things he might not be able to do if it were a 'stand-alone' nursery".

"I love the fact that it is so play-based. My child's play has developed so well since starting here"

"Even though the provision is new, it feels like the nursery has always been here."

Success starts with the right choice for early education

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL SERVICES

Also Open to Non Advertisers £10.00 per annum.

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Christopher Dean & Co. Tax advice VAT, Year End. 01295 788104

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01295 720930

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Linda Lane—Cottage in Cornwall

01295 780242

Jane Fitzpatrick—Cottage in lower Tadmarton

01295 780451

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01295 811026

PR Handyman services help with your home

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01295 277789

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01295 780668

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01295 368150

Adam Lawrence , ADROX

07540 850491

SCHOOLS

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Sibford Gower Endowed Primary

01295 780270

Swalcliffe Park School for Boys with Autism

01295 780302

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Iron and Wood. Wood Burning stove centre.

01295 253916

Are you looking to start your own business in 2022 and thinking about advertising?

Why not consider our local link.

From January 2022 anyone advertising in The Link will get a presence on our website with an optional direct link to their website or Facebook page.

There is an option to only advertise in the directory for £10 per annum.



Children's Activities

At Tadmarton Village Hall

Kids Film Club

Join us every 2nd Saturday of the month at **3pm** and settle down and enjoy a movie on our BIG screen. Refreshments available.

12th March – **Paddington 2**

16th April – **Encanto**

Kids and Caffeine

We welcome you on the last Saturday of every month from **10am-12noon** to enjoy tea and cake with fellow families. Plenty of toys and activities to entertain children from 0 – 12 years.

***26th March *30th April *28th May**

For more info call

Gemma 07872596603 or Carla 07749100398

What's on!

01-03-22	Computer Club	P 25	02-04-22	Banbury Choral Society	P 21
02-03-22	Matinee Film Club	P 25	05-04-22	Computer Club	P 25
10-03-22	Horti Talk Baskets	P 41	09.04.22	Annual HORTI Show	P 42
12-03-22	Taddy Coffee morning	P 25	16-04-22	Taddy Coffee Morning	P 25
12-03-22	Kids Film Club	P 49	16-04-22	Kids Film Club	P 49
12-03-22	Give and Take Event	P 27	30-04-22	Spring fayre	P 51
13-03-22	Sew in Company	P 44	02-06-22	Swalcliffe Jubilee Celebrations	P29
25-03-22	Seniors Lunch	P 25	10-07-22	Broughton Castle Sportive	P 20
26-03-22	Kids and Caffeine	P 49			
26-03-22	Taddy Film Club	P 25			
30-03-22	Matinee Film Club	P 25			

QUARRY NURSERIES

Philip Gilbert



Quarry Road, Hornton, Nr. Banbury, Oxon OX15 6DF

Nursery: 07903 655267 www.quarrynurseries.co.uk

Please see Website for Latest Opening Times

Spring opening 29 April 2022 and Autumn opening 31 August 2022

TADMARTON VILLAGE HALL PRESENTS:
 SPRING FAYRE AND BASKET BONANZA !!

COME AND JOIN US AT THE HALL ON:
 SATURDAY 30TH APRIL BETWEEN 10AM AND 2PM



ON SALE WE WILL HAVE HAND MADE CRAFTS FOR THE GARDEN AND HOME, ALL LOCALLY SOURCED WITH MANY ITEMS UPCYCLED FROM DONATED MATERIALS. SO COME AND GRAB YOUR BIRD BOXES, BUG HOUSES, HEDGEHOG HOMES, GUINEA PIG IGLOOS, IPAD RESTERS, APRONS, TADDY PRINTED SHOPPING BAGS AND MORE.....

BASKET BONANZA

THIS YEAR WE ALSO HAVE SOME VOL-UNTEERS ON HAND TO CREATE YOUR HANGING BASKETS FOR YOU. JUST BRING ALONG YOUR EMPTY BASKET, AND FOR A NOMINAL CHARGE WE WILL LINE AND FILL WITH SEASONAL PLANTS FOR THE SUMMER SEASON. FREE ENTRY WITH THE USUAL DELICIOUS REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE HALL. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU. ANYONE WHO HAS MATERIALS TO DONATE PLEASE CONTACT ANY VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEMBER





What a blustery end to the half-term it has been, but a wonderful half-term nonetheless. The children are really enjoying their topic themes and have built up a strong body of knowledge over the last few weeks with our youngest children learning all about London, as our capital city, including key buildings and landmarks such as the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace, the Millennium Wheel and the River Thames. They have learned about important figures, including Queen Elizabeth and the Prime Minister. The children made a very impressive version of London Zoo, sorting the animals into different species and labelling their enclosures with interesting facts and information. They painted

portraits of the Queen and have built an adult height version of

Big Ben's tower in the classroom, with a fully working clock face to help them learn how to tell the time! Over in Key Stage Two, both classes ended the term with practical workshops that reflected some of the key learning they have been doing in different areas of the curriculum. The Willow Class focus on 'Natural Disasters' culminated in 'Volcano Day' with the children working collaboratively to design, build and decorate their own mini-volcanoes which then erupted in our very own 'ring of fire'. The very impressive lava flows were created by using either bicarbonate of soda and vinegar, or mento sweets with cola. All very exciting!



Oak Class have been exploring the theme of The Victorians. In D & T, they explored how different pulleys, gears and levers work and revised their knowledge of electrical circuits. They then used this knowledge within an extended workshop in which they designed and built their own, fully moving Victorian fairground rides. They learned a lot about construction including how to use glue guns.



It's been really fun and I've got to draw horses for our carousel, which is a bonus!"
Hattie H.



One thing all of these practical activities have in common is the opportunity they provide for the children to work collaboratively. They love working together and the regular opportunities we plan for this during the academic year mean that, by the time the children are in their final years here, they are able to cooperate effectively on joint tasks with a courtesy and maturity that is a delight to see.

To find out more about our wonderful, welcoming village school and nursery for children from 3+, and the things that are going on in each class, please take some time to visit our school website at

<http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/>