

# KBS NEWS

## The Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Village News

DELIVERED MONTHLY TO EVERY HOUSE  
IN THE VILLAGE

Volume 52

Number 9

October 2025

### HELP US DESIGN A LOGO FOR KBS VILLAGE WEBSITE!

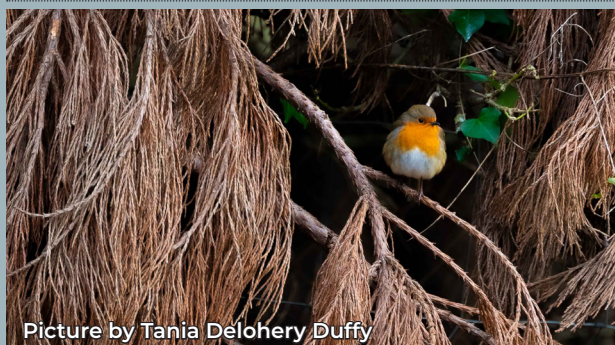
CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

The Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Village Website is in need of updating and the KBS News Team have taken on the task.

We'd love to have the community's help to create a logo that captures the spirit of our village. Your design should be simple, memorable and unique to Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor.

All ideas are welcome, whether hand drawn or digital. Please send your designs to [editorkbsnews@gmail.com](mailto:editorkbsnews@gmail.com) by the end of November.

The chosen design will become the official logo of the village website!

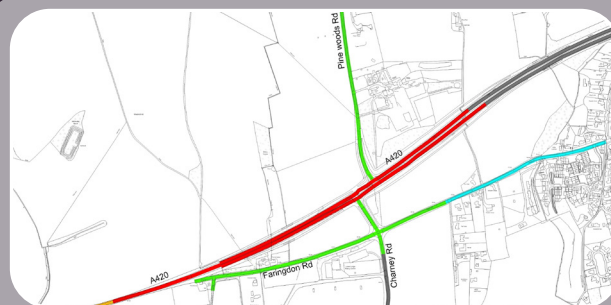


Picture by Tania Delohery Duffy



**21st of October - National Apple Day.** It celebrates apple varieties while also promoting the importance of orchards, biodiversity, and sustainable agriculture.

Hidden somewhere inside the News is a picture of an apple. Can you find it?



Oxfordshire County Council Highways are seeking residents' views on a proposal to change speed limits along the A420 at the eastern end of the village and on the roads leading into the village at that point.

Please take time to complete the questionnaire! More details on page 8.



The clocks move backward on Sunday, October 26 at 2:00am.

This results in an extra hour in bed, more daylight in the mornings, and earlier sunsets in the evenings.

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**Copy date for next  
 issue: Sunday 19th  
 October for the  
 November edition**

*KBS News is produced by a team of volunteers and printed locally by Artisan*

**For all advertising:** Please contact the Advertising team at [advertsksnews@gmail.com](mailto:advertsksnews@gmail.com)

**All Non advertising copy** must be sent to the Editorial Team at [editorkbsnews@gmail.com](mailto:editorkbsnews@gmail.com).

**PLEASE NOTE!!** all items are managed by the Editorial Team and may not be read by the Editor until the magazine is created.

### Photographs:

- All photographs included with copy for publication **must include** the permission of all pictured, including parents of children.
- Photographs included within copy **must ALSO** be separately attached to the email in its original JPEG format and with a high resolution.

**All copy** must be supplied with the contact's name, address and phone number.

KBS News reserves the right to alter, omit, shorten or edit any submissions, if necessary, where space is at a premium. We are not responsible for grammatical errors and spelling, nor take any responsibility for comment, opinion or advice of anything printed in the KBS News or advice given by any of its advertisers.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

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<b>Chemists</b> Faringdon Pharmacy 01367 244632  Wootton Pharmacy 01865 736136	<b>District Council</b> Vale of White Horse 01235 422422  Emergency Helpline 01235 422420	<b>VETS</b>		<b>POLICE</b>
		<b>Elms Veterinary</b> 30 Gloucester St Faringdon, SN7 7HY 01367 242416	<b>Abivale Veterinary</b> The Vineyard, Abingdon, OX14 3NR 01235 524777	<b>Non Emergency</b> Call 101 <b>Crimestoppers</b> 24hr 0800 783 0137
<b>24hr Gas Emergency</b> 0800 111 999		<b>24hr Electricity Emergencies</b> Call 105	<b>24hr Thames Water Emergency</b> 0800 316 9800	
<b>Citizens Advice</b> <a href="http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk">www.citizensadvice.org.uk</a> , 0808 278 7907			<b>Mind</b> <a href="http://www.mind.org.uk">www.mind.org.uk</a> , 0800 169665	
<b>Samaritans</b> - <a href="http://www.samaritans.org">www.samaritans.org</a> , 1116 123			<b>Childline</b> <a href="http://www.childline.org.uk">www.childline.org.uk</a> , 0800 1111	
<b>The Cedar Community Club</b> - where older people meet with friends old and new 01865 686472				
<b>Community Issues</b> - contact District Councillor <b>Jill Rayner</b> at <a href="mailto:jill.rayner@whitehorsedc.gov.uk">jill.rayner@whitehorsedc.gov.uk</a>				



**KBS News is always looking for volunteers to help with distribution. If  
 you can spare some time, we'd love to hear from you!**

**Please contact** [distributionkbsnews@gmail.com](mailto:distributionkbsnews@gmail.com)



# Village Diary

Village Hall Booking Details - email: [southmoorvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:southmoorvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk)

## OCTOBER

St John the Baptist Parish Church, Kingston Bagpuize Services. – See full details on the Church Page				5
Monday	6 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Parish Council Monthly Meeting – Swallow Room, KB&S Village Hall	14
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm	Southmoor & Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club, Paul Green 'Sensory Sensations: KBSVH	13
Friday	10 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Closing Date for Residents Views on Proposed Speed Limit Changes on the A420 past KB&S	8
Tuesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Apple Blossoms WI. Members Choice Event KBSVH	23
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	6:30-8pm	The White Horse Medical Practice Patient Participation Group AGM	24
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am >>	Save a Life Learn how to perform CPR and use a defibrillator Sessions Throughout the Day	20
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm	Longworth History Society. Andrew Long "Naming of Oxfordshire Pubs" KBSVH	10
Friday	17 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Film and Music Night. The Big Short, starring Christian Bale, Steve Carell, Ryan Gosling and Brad Pitt. The KB Church Room	12
Saturday		7.00pm	Abingdon RDA Charity Quiz KBSVH	25
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	<b>Last Date / Time for copy to KBS News for the November edition</b>	2
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Village Litter Pick - Meet up point is corner of Draycott and Faringdon Roads – All Welcome	7
Thursday	30 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Village Walk and Talk starting at Kingston Bagpuize & Southmoor Village Hall	22

## NOVEMBER

Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	12.30pm	Village Lunch at Kingston Bagpuize & Southmoor Village Hall	11
Thursday	6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Active Buggies Start, Free Outdoor Fitness Session for Post Natal Participants. Millennium Green	7
Thursday	13 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am – 10.30am	John Blandy Primary School Open Morning for September 2026 year starters	25
Thursday	27 <sup>th</sup> & Friday	28 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group JACK & THE BEANSTALK Pantomime KBSVH	28
Saturday	29 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm and 6.30pm		

## REGULAR EVENTS - Please check with the event organiser to confirm


















In Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Village Hall		In Scout Hut, Faringdon Rd (Term Time Only)	
Apple Blossoms WI	2nd Tuesday each month 7.30pm	1st Longworth Beavers	Monday 6.00pm - 7.15pm
Apple Quilters	2nd & 4th Monday Each Month 10am – 2pm New Members always welcome	1st Longworth Cubs	Tuesday 6.00pm - 7.30pm Wednesday 5.45pm – 7.15pm
Clubbercise	Monday 8.00 pm - 9.00 pm	1st Longworth Explorers	Wednesday 7.30pm - 9.00pm
Dance Fitness	Tuesdays 2.30pm – 3.30pm	1st Longworth Scouts	Thursday 7.30pm - 9.00pm
Fitness	Monday 9.15am - 10.00am tel 07769 883199	At The Bowls Club, Oxford Road, Kingston Bagpuize	
French for Fun	Wednesday (Term Time only) 9.30 – 11am	Bowls Clubs Roll Up	Tuesday & Thursday Winter 1.30pm / Summer 2.00pm
KBS	Improvers & Above Saturdays 9.00 – 10.30am	At Millennium Green Oxford Road, Kingston Bagpuize	
Badminton Club	Improvers & Returners Wednesday 6.30 - 8pm Intermediates & Above Monday 6.15 – 7.30pm	Junior Park Run	Sunday 9.00am
KB Drama Group	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7.30pm & when it occurs. 5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm (see Church Hall for other days)	At Jubilee Sports Field, Edward Strauss Park	
KBS Cafe	Thursdays 9.00am - 12 noon	Kingston Bagpuize Cricket Club	Junior Training Friday 6 – 8pm
KBS Gardening Club	1st Tuesday monthly 7.15pm for 7.30pm	In St John the Baptist Church Hall	
KBS Pilates	Thursdays 1.30 – 2.30pm See KBS News Ad	KB Drama Group	1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month at 7:30pm (see Village Hall for other days)
KB & S Tennis Club	Tuesday 9 - 11am Men's Open Wednesday 6.30-8.30pm Ladies Open	KBS Art and Craft Friendship Club	Alternate Mondays 9.30am - 12.00 noon
Longworth & District History Society	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday every month at 7.00pm	In Longworth Village Hall info at <a href="http://longworthvillage.org.uk">longworthvillage.org.uk</a>	
Southmoor Baby & Toddlers	Friday (Term Time Only) 10.00 -11.30am	IYENGAR Yoga class (Term Time Only)	Monday 7.00pm – 8.30pm Tuesday 11.45am – 1.15pm
Table Tennis (Over 55's)	Tuesday 11am – 12 noon For Info email: <a href="mailto:bobsouthmoor@hotmail.com">bobsouthmoor@hotmail.com</a>	KARATE	Little Ninjas (3-5yrs) at 4pm - 4.30pm Kids Class (6-12yrs) 4.35pm - 5.25pm Mixed Class (6yrs+) 5.30pm - 6.30pm
Yoga Classes	Tuesday 6.00pm - 7.00pm (intermediate) Wednesday 10.30am - 11.15am (seniors) Thursday 6.00pm - 7.00pm (beginners)	PILATES	Tuesday 9.15am & 5.45pm Thursday 9.15am & 6.30pm
Village Walk	Last Thursday every month 10.00am (Not Dec)	ZUMBA	Thursday 10.30am
In Hinton Waldrist Village Hall			
Cedar Community Club		Tuesday & Wednesday 9.30 -3.00pm	



Find Extra KBS copies at the One Stop shop, Hinds Head and Southmoor Co-ops



## OCTOBER BIN COLLECTION

Wed 1st	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items	 +  + 
Wed 8th	Food Bin / Green Bin Collection/Brown Bin + Textiles & Batteries in a separate bag on top of the Bin	 +  +  + 
Wed 15th	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items	 +  + 
Wed 22nd	Food Bin / Green Bin Collection/Brown Bin + Textiles & Batteries in a separate bag on top of the Bin	 +  +  + 
Wed 29th	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items	 +  + 

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<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	Holy Communion Morning Worship
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	Holy Communion All-Age Service
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	Holy Communion Morning Worship
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	Holy Communion Family Communion

### **OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS**

The church will be open for private prayer every Tuesday to Thursday 9am to 12 noon. If you would appreciate the church being open at other times e.g. Saturday, please contact Catherine, our vicar.

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Children's Church** 10.30am in the Church Room with crafts and activities, all children and families welcome.

### **YOUR VILLAGE CHURCH IS HERE TO HELP**

If you'd like to find out more about our services and resources, or discuss spiritual matters, contact Revd Catherine Schneider email [vicar.kbs@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.kbs@gmail.com) phone 07865 827679, usual working days Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (and Sunday services)

#### **FYFIELD BAPTIST CHAPEL**

**Morning Service & Sunday School**  
**Sunday 11.00 am**

Communion monthly 2nd Sundays  
location: (south side of main village)  
Digging Lane, Fyfield OX13 5LY  
more information:

[www.fyfieldchapel.org.uk](http://www.fyfieldchapel.org.uk)  
[info@fyfieldchapel.org.uk](mailto:info@fyfieldchapel.org.uk)  
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The Presbytery, 1 Coxwell Road, Faringdon SN7 7EB.  
Tel: 01367 358895 Email: [cconde@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:cconde@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Church fully open for Sunday Mass at 10.00 am



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## VILLAGE VOICES

Send your views to [editorkbsnews@gmail.com](mailto:editorkbsnews@gmail.com)

### Out & About in Lincoln



My daughter Emma Watts and I recently attended the Asylum Steampunk Festival in Lincoln. We took our copy of the KBS News with us. Here are a couple of photos taken as we were waiting to see Steam Powered Giraffe. Emma wore one of her pirate costumes. Carole Watts

### Out & About in Paris



A new Kingston Bagpuize resident Zoe with the KBS News in Disneyland Paris!



Don't forget our 'Out & About with the KBS News' feature.  
Send pics to [editorkbsnews@gmail.com](mailto:editorkbsnews@gmail.com)







## KBS Café



Every Thursday 9am to 12pm  
• Southmoor Village Hall

We serve tea (including different flavoured teas), coffee (including Latte and Cappuccino) and hot chocolate, orange and blackcurrant squash, homemade cheese scones and homemade cakes. We have a few gluten free options as well.

- A mug of tea or coffee is £1.00
- A piece of cake or a cheese scone is £1.00
- A glass of squash is 10p

If you can help, please contact Caroline Ashby on 07984 523955 or Ruth on 01865 821386. We look forward to seeing you. **Caroline Ashby**

## Village Litter Pick



Sunday, 26th October at 10am

Fancy a Sunday morning stroll around the village then feel free to come and join us for a litter pick on Sunday, 26th October. Meet up point is corner of Draycott and Faringdon Roads at 10 a.m. Any time you can offer, from half an hour to two hours, all willing hands are welcome along with dogs and children.



Date for your diaries for next year, our next planned litter pick will be Sunday, 25th January 2026 when it will be really easy to see any litter that may be lying around.



## Poppy Appeal - Help Needed

With the annual Poppy Appeal looming, we are looking for volunteers to do a little collecting in their locality.

Please contact Kevin Hadley on 07770 748027 or email [kevin.hadley@hotmail.com](mailto:kevin.hadley@hotmail.com) if you can spare a little time between 25th October and 9th November.

## ACTIVE BUGGIES KINGSTON BAGPUIZE

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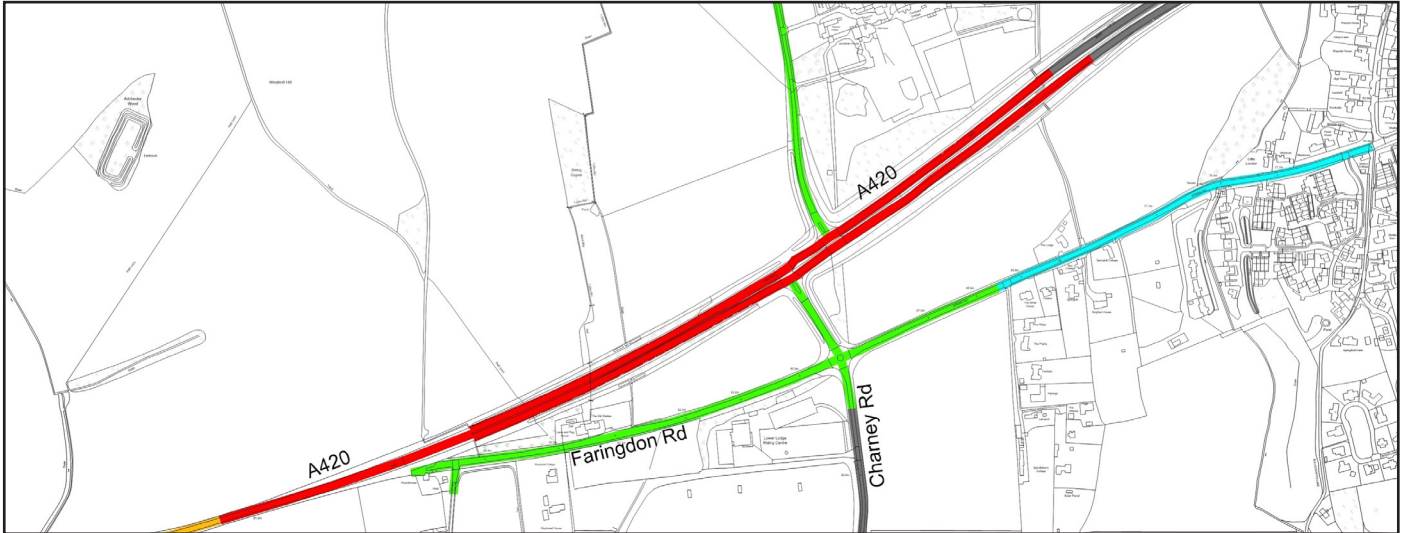
at  
**Preston Road Community  
Centre, Abingdon**  
**Mondays 5.30pm & 7.00pm**  
**New Marcham Centre**  
**Tuesdays 5.30pm & 7.30pm**  
**Call GRACE 07807 707925**



## Proposal for changes to the A420 Speed Limits

**Note:** KBS News is unable to include all the documents and maps provided by the OCC Highways due to limited space. All information is available at [https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kingstonbagpuize\\_longworth\\_40mph50mph2025](https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kingstonbagpuize_longworth_40mph50mph2025)

Oxfordshire County Council Highways are **seeking the views of local residents** on a proposal to extend the existing 50mph speed limit on the A420 from the point it finishes east of KB&S to points beyond the central reservation pedestrian crossing point of the A420 at Kingston Bagpuize/Longworth, thereby covering the staggered junction with Pine Woods Road to Longworth, and the unnamed link road to the mini roundabout at the top of Spring Hill.



**Road Coloured Red will have a 50mph limit**

**Road Coloured Green will have a 40mph limit**

**Road Coloured Blue continue as a 30mph limit**

**KBS News hopes all residents will give OCC Highways their views. Closing date 10th October 2025.**

**Find the survey in the link:**

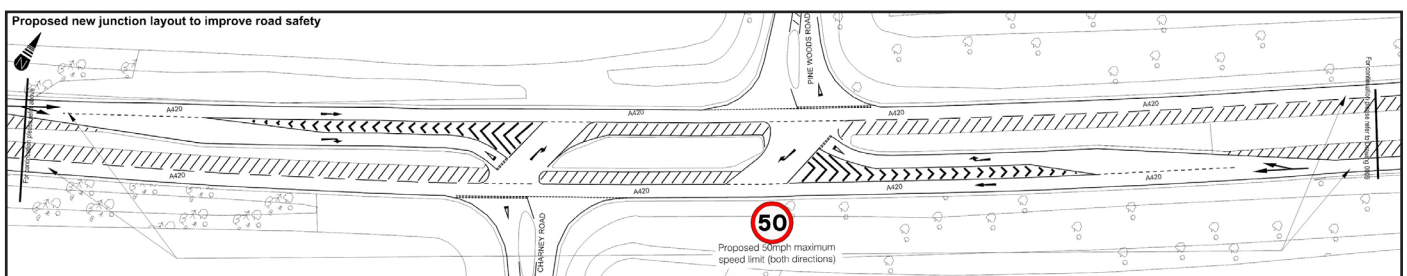
[https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kingstonbagpuize\\_longworth\\_40mph50mph2025](https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kingstonbagpuize_longworth_40mph50mph2025)

The above proposed changes are being put forward to help complement a scheme (not being considered as part of this consultation) – as shown in the additional improvement scheme ‘Lining Plans’ (Partially reproduced below) – whereby the carriageway will be reduced to a single lane in each direction through the staggered junction section, which is looking to address recognised safety concerns and a relatively high collision history. See all plans at [https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kingstonbagpuize\\_longworth\\_40mph50mph2025](https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kingstonbagpuize_longworth_40mph50mph2025)

The proposals are part of OCCs ‘Vision Zero’ strategy, which seeks to work on a safe system approach to reducing fatal and severe injuries to road casualties, the Council proposes to reduce vehicle speeds to safer levels for road users, including pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, motorcyclists, and all motorists. Further information on ‘Vision Zero’ can be found at: <https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ambition-to-eliminate-all-road-deaths-and-serious-injuries-by-2050>

As stated on the notice, any objections or other representations on the proposals should be submitted by **Friday 10th October 2025**.

Our local County Councillor, Lee Evans, has told us that he would be very happy to hear from residents with their views on the proposals, as his plan is to speak at the County Council meeting at which this is discussed, so knowing people’s views will be helpful. Lee can be contacted at [lee.evans@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:lee.evans@oxfordshire.gov.uk)





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## St John the Baptist Church

### Reclaimed wooden bowl needs new home

I used to live in Southmoor and when I lived there I bought a very nice wooden bowl made from reclaimed wood from the original cupola of St John the Baptist Church in KB (according to the label on the bowl, apparently built in 1799).

Now that I have downsized and moved to Eynsham and live in a much smaller house I would like to 're-home' this bowl for free. Please see the photo below. The top diameter is 14 cm.

Please contact me (Avril Collins) if you are interested via 07766-686586. I would be happy to deliver it next time I am visiting friends in the village.



## Longworth & District History Society



16th October (Thursday) at 7:15pm • Andrew Long "Naming of Oxfordshire Pubs"

At our October meeting Andrew Long will give his talk "Naming of Oxfordshire Pubs". Andrew is chair of the Aston History Group. Aston and Longworth have overlapping historical features especially in terms of their nonconformist roots. This is mentioned in their recently published parish history.

The date of the meeting is Thursday 16th October, 7.15pm, in Southmoor Village Hall. The bar will be open, and there will be books to browse, borrow or buy. All welcome. Members free and visitors £4.

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## News from Southmoor Baby and Toddler Group:



Every Friday (term time) at 10am • Southmoor Village Hall

A kind donation from Kingston Bagpuize Charities Trust, organised by the Village Church paid for the bouncy castle hire at our Summer Party and the group has recently been awarded a £200 grant by the Midcounties Co-operative to help with funding our Halloween and Christmas events.

The group started back on 5th September with a new leadership team and a few new members in our helpers group. New and old volunteers who help with things such as set-up, washing up and pack-down are imperative to making sure the group can continue to run. Luckily Jo who's been running the toddler group for many years has agreed to continue to help behind the scenes with a lot of organisational aspects. Her expertise and experience are invaluable to making the group as popular as it is.

We run every Friday during term time and we'll be raising funds for Macmillan Support on Friday 26th September. A charity that we know touches the lives of many of our members and does vital work in our community. If anybody wants to donate some shop-bought or home-made cakes please do get in touch: southmoorbabytoddlergroup@hotmail.co.uk

We are currently busy planning our sessions around Hallowe'en. More details on this will come on our Facebook page so do visit for weekly updates: <https://www.facebook.com/southmoorbabyandtoddlergroup>

We provide a friendly meeting place for parents, grandparents and carers and a safe, fun environment for your babies and toddlers to play and socialize. The group meets every Friday from 10 until 11.30am during term time in the Village Hall. We hope to see some regular and new faces at a session soon. Your first session is free. Book your slot here: [bookwhen.com/southmoorbabytoddlergroup](http://bookwhen.com/southmoorbabytoddlergroup)



### Village Lunch

### Monday 3rd November

Please come and join us in the Village Hall at 12.30pm.

To book your place, cost £5 per person for a two course hot meal and good company, please contact, by Thursday 23rd October Hazel Brennan (821358), Peter Beer (820805) or sign up with Stephen Haywood at the KBS Café.

We look forward to hearing from you

If having booked you are unable to attend we'd be grateful if you will let us know to avoid wasting food.



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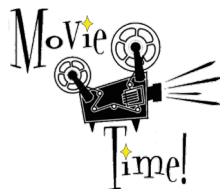
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## KBS Film and Music Night



17th October (Friday) at 7pm • 'The Big Short' • Church Room

Our next Film Night will be on Friday 17th October in the Church Room when we will be showing **The Big Short**, starring Christian Bale, Steve Carell, Ryan Gosling and Brad Pitt. It is based on the true story of when the banks committed the greatest fraud in US history. Four outsiders risk all to take them down. One Review says, "The Big Short approaches a serious, complicated subject with an impressive attention to detail and manages to deliver a well-acted, scathingly funny indictment of its real life villains."

This is a free evening organised by members of St John the Baptist Church and tea, coffee, chocolates and popcorn will be provided from 7pm with the film beginning at 7.15pm. We have limited capacity in the room, so we do ask you to let either Peter Beer or Margo Evans know if you will be joining us. We would hate to have to turn anyone away on the night.

Many thanks, *Peter Beer* 01865 820805 or *Margo Evans* 01865 820900 or [margoevans@mac.com](mailto:margoevans@mac.com)



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**Southmoor &  
Kingston Bagpuize  
Gardening Club**



**7th October (Tuesday)**  
• **Paul Green 'Sensory  
Sensations: choosing plants  
with extra interest to stimulate  
all your senses!'**

• **Southmoor Village Hall**

**What a wonderful day we had at this year's Village Show in early September!** Despite the difficult growing conditions, there was still a beautiful display of produce. The main hall was filled with colourful fruit, vegetables, plants and flowers. The Elkins Room contained some beautiful flower arrangements, an array of arts, crafts and photography and the Swallow Room was filled with preserves and baked goods. The Gardening Club has traditionally organised the Village Show but, for the past few years it's been open for anyone living in the village to enter, and it was pleasing this year to see that a large number of entries came from non-members. Children have their own special categories where they compete against their own age group, but we also had children put entries into some of the adult categories and win prizes! The competition is all a bit of fun and it's lovely to see so many people showing off what they can do and for visitors to gather at the hall to have a look round, chat and eat delicious home-made cake.

As you can probably imagine, the Show takes an awful lot of hard work to organise. Credit for pulling it together this year goes to Penny Meacham, who chaired the Committee, and her hard-working team of helpers. It's also an expensive undertaking. We offer our thanks firstly to the Village Hall for supporting this village event by subsidising the hall hire charges. And secondly, to a number of local businesses who kindly donated raffle prizes. Without these, we wouldn't have broken even, so it was very much appreciated. We'd like to thank the following for their generosity and support: Aquarius Hair, Art of Jaipur, Blenheim Palace, Bampton Plants, Corne Motors, Crocodiles of the World, Cotswold Wildlife Park, Edwards Vehicle Services, Fitness at the Farm (Leah Maclean, Lucy Weaving & Martin Dobinson), Kingsmoor Clinic (Katie Morse, Klair Price, Jessica Barrett & Richard Pyke), Kingston Bagpuize Co-op, Millets Farm, One Stop, Southmoor Co-op, The Trout Inn, Waggon & Horses and the White Horse Leisure Centre.

Our next regular meeting is on Tuesday 7th October. Paul Green will be returning to talk to us about 'Sensory Sensations: choosing plants with extra interest to stimulate all your senses!' As usual, Paul will have a selection of plants related to his talk for sale. The evening is free for members and takes place at Southmoor Village Hall, doors open 7.15pm for a 7.30pm kick-off. Visitors are welcome for £4 which includes complimentary refreshments. For more information email [skbgardeningclub@gmail.com](mailto:skbgardeningclub@gmail.com) or visit [www.skbgardeningclub.org.uk](http://www.skbgardeningclub.org.uk). **Sharon Cooper (Chair)**

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**Meeting minutes and appendices are available online** at [www.kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk/document-category/minutes](http://www.kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk/document-category/minutes) and on Parish Council Notice Boards.

The Parish Council met on 1st September in the Village Hall, attended by members of the council and County Councillor Lee Evans. Councillor Evans reported on several county matters affecting Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor, including school parking issues, safety concerns on the A420, and the ongoing closure of the Tenfoot pedestrian bridge on the Thames. He also confirmed that work is planned to improve drainage and that poor mobile phone coverage is being reviewed at county level.

Residents raised further concerns regarding proposed changes to refuse tip rules and the condition of Faringdon Road.

The Council considered a number of local projects and improvements. Updates were provided on the David Wilson Homes development (to be known as Ferrers Green), where discussions are ongoing regarding the use of S106 contributions for village infrastructure. Minor works will be carried out in the playground and recreation ground and new goal nets provided in the Millennium Green. The Council also approved the acquisition of an additional defibrillator to be installed at the One Stop Shop, supported by a resident's donation. Preparations for Remembrance Sunday were agreed, including the order of five wreaths with a donation and the invitation of members of the armed forces and other local dignitaries. Financial matters included the approval of monthly payments, review of the quarterly budget, and verification of bank reconciliations, with councillors noting that the external audit report for 2024–25 raised no issues. A tree survey contract was awarded, while the burial ground committee reported on boundary wall repairs and the replacement of the memorial tool shed.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) remains under review with the Vale. The Parish Council also agreed to apply for a boundary review to move the Ferrers Green development into KBS.

The next full Council meetings are scheduled for 6th October and 3rd November, with committee meetings to take place during September.

### Neighbourhood Development Plan:

After advice on the pre-submission consultation, from the South and Vale Planning Policy Officers for NDP, the Steering Group met on Wednesday 10th September. Members considered and agreed changes to one section of the Draft NDP. The relevant pages are now being redrafted before being re-submitted. When the alterations are approved the KBSNDP can then be submitted for independent appraisal. At this time the full draft will be posted on the KBS PC website for comment by residents.

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## Recipe of the month

### Roast pumpkin & spinach lasagne

Nothing is as comforting as a rich creamy lasagne and the sweet, earthy flavours of this veggie classic are well worth the effort [www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/roast-pumpkin-spinach-lasagne](http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/roast-pumpkin-spinach-lasagne)

Preparation time: 25 mins    Cooking Time: 2hr and 5 mins    Serves: 6

#### Ingredients

- 750g Crown Prince Pumpkin or butternut squash
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 500g Spinach (washed)
- 1 tbsp butter (plus extra for greasing)
- Whole Nutmeg for grating
- 6 fresh lasagne sheets
- 100g parmesan

#### For the tomato sauce

- 1 medium onion finely chopped
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 celery stick, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves finely chopped
- 400g can cherry tomato
- 2 tsp light muscovado sugar

#### For the béchamel sauce

- 500ml full-fat milk      6 peppercorns
- ½ onion                    1 bay leaf
- 50g plain flour            50g butter



#### Method

1. Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Halve the pumpkin or squash, peel, deseed, then slice into 1cm slices. Toss with the oil in a roasting tin, season, then roast until tender and slightly charred at the edges. This can take up to 40 mins.
2. Meanwhile, make the tomato sauce. In a pan, soften the onion in the oil for 5 mins, then add the celery and garlic and cook for 1 min more. Add the tomatoes and sugar, then leave to simmer, uncovered, for 30 mins. Stir from time to time. You should be left with a thick purée. Season to taste.
3. Put the spinach in a saucepan with the water that still clings to it after washing, cover and put over a medium heat. Wilt the spinach for about 4 mins – you'll need to turn it over with tongs every so often to make sure it all comes in contact with the heat at the bottom of the pan. When completely wilted, leave until cool enough to handle, then squeeze the water out with your hands. Chop and put in a pan with the butter. Gently heat, tossing together so the spinach is coated in butter, then season with salt, pepper and a generous grating of nutmeg.
4. For the béchamel sauce, bring the milk to the boil in a pan with the peppercorns, onion and bay leaf. Set aside for 5 mins to infuse, then strain the milk into another pan. Add the flour and butter, then gently heat, whisking all the while, until you have a thick, smooth sauce.
5. Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6 and assemble the lasagne. Butter a large gratin or baking dish, roughly 1.4 litres in capacity. Put a layer of pumpkin in the bottom followed by a layer of tomato sauce. Lay lasagne sheets on top of this, cutting them to fit if necessary (you don't want any overlapping). Now add a layer of béchamel sauce followed by a scattering of spinach and half the cheese. Top with more lasagne sheets, pumpkin, tomato sauce, more lasagne and a final layer of béchamel sauce. Sprinkle the remaining cheese over the top. Bake for 40 mins, or until the lasagne is golden and bubbling.



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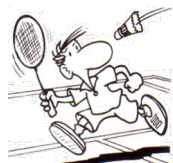
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## Restaurant Review

Our Restaurant Reviewers have been away on holiday but will be back in November! :)



### KBS Badminton Club



Every Monday (6:15 - 7:30pm), Wednesday (6.30 - 8pm) and Saturday (9.00 - 10.30am) • Southmoor Village Hall

Finally, something approaching normality resumes after the long, hot summer and there's time to settle down to some regular exercise before the season of overindulgence arrives! Badminton is a great sport as it offers a complete workout, boosting cardiovascular health, building muscle strength and flexibility, and improving balance and coordination. It's also mentally challenging and social – not to mention fun! Luckily, it can be enjoyed at any age (we're open to adults and mature teenagers) and at various fitness levels.

With this in mind, we offer several different opportunities to play every week. We're currently welcoming new members on Monday evenings (6.15-7.30pm improvers and above) and Saturday mornings (9-10.30am improvers and above). Please note that there will be NO SESSION on Saturday 11th October and we'll play instead on SUNDAY 12th October. We also have an improvers session on Wednesdays from 6.30-8pm and a beginner session on Wednesdays from 8-9pm. These are currently both full, but you can request to go on the waiting list.

All sessions take place at Southmoor Village Hall. It's very inexpensive as we run on a non-profit basis and the first couple of visits are free. Space is limited so do get in touch with us first if you'd like to come along. Contacts are: [sharon@cherrytree21.plus.com](mailto:sharon@cherrytree21.plus.com) (01865 820399) for Mondays and Saturday, [jenny.frame@live.co.uk](mailto:jenny.frame@live.co.uk) for Wednesday Improvers and Scott [spj74@outlook.com](mailto:spj74@outlook.com) for Wednesday Beginners.



### Kingston Bagpuize Village Art and Craft Club



6th October (Monday) at 9:30am • St. John the Baptist Church Hall

September began with members enjoying stamping and colouring an image to make a greeting card. We also welcomed two new members Ronelli and Michelle to the group. The club is intended as a meeting place for making new friends, with crafting skills not a necessity as there is a range of hobbies that other members are happy to share. If you are interested in arts and craft, or you would just like to meet people who are, why not come along to one of our meetings. We now have a Facebook page 'KBS Village Art and Craft Club' for anyone wanting to see things members have made. The club meets on alternate Mondays throughout the year in the St. John the Baptist Church Hall, Kingston Bagpuize, starting at 09.30 and finishing at midday with the first meeting being free. Our next meeting is Monday October 6th. We look forward to welcoming new members. Jean Allsworth 07397530144

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## KBS Nature

Hallowe'en will soon be upon us and in keeping with spooky tales I have a story from the garden that is not for the faint hearted...

But more of that later! Firstly, Hissing Sid has been back and seen sunning himself by the garden pond. On approaching, he slithered off but had left behind his shed skin (see photo) - another first for me.

Last month, I promised you a further report from our trip to the West Coast of Ireland. I have been fortunate to have visited Co Mayo on several occasions and, if you get the opportunity to take the Wild Atlantic Way, I encourage you to do so. Our first wildlife encounter was a hare (apparently there were two but I only saw one) at the cemetery. I do love an Irish cemetery and cemeteries, as a whole, are great for wildlife.

We unfortunately caught the tail end of Storm Floris and so it was "unseasonably windy" even for that exposed part of the coast! So much so that the choughs that normally nest on the cliffs at Dún na mBó were nowhere to be seen. I was somewhat disappointed but a few days later on a road trip to Achill Island (with a quick stop at the distillery to purchase some local fuchsia infused gin!) I was rewarded with a sighting (nothing to do with the gin). These corvids have a very distinctive curved red beak and red legs and their flight can only be said to resemble a black bin liner flailing in the wind. Magic.

**All this talk of cemeteries and magic brings me onto my gruesome tale. WARNING – this next section has details that some may find alarming.**

Sitting on the deck enjoying the last of the summer sunshine, a hornet suddenly appeared clutching a wasp he had nabbed. The hornet landed on a cordyline with his prey and battle commenced. The wasp was not giving up without a fight but as the photo shows (apologies not the best shot!) The poor wasp lost his head and the hornet flew away with his grisly meal. Who needs lions in the Serengeti when we have such wildlife spectacles on our own doorstep!

Next time – the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness (Keats)...

Don't forget, your observations, photos etc. on anything from the natural world that may be of interest to our readers are always welcome ([kbsnature2025@gmail.com](mailto:kbsnature2025@gmail.com)) **Best wishes, Linda.**

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## News from the Bowls Club

The summer season has come to an end with one result from the Ashley Barker league result outstanding. This result was a win for the KB&S Team moving them into Second place in the league.

After a short break the Oxford Winter Short Mat afternoon league will commence at the end of September. Bowling outside will continue with the Cadman Trophy match being played on the 20th September and the Autumn Triples two weeks later.

Royal Berkshire Bowling Association attend Kingston Bowls Club for their annual end of year match between the President and Vice President. This year the president is stepping down after a busy 3 years in post.

The match consisted of 36 players from across the county including members from KB&S BC. Play got underway despite heavy gray clouds, rain and strong winds. Unfortunately the President's team succumbed to the Vice President's team on this occasion. Players enjoyed a hot meal following the match completion. Awards being made to individuals by the President and vice President.

**Tom Waring, Club Captain.** [waringshomas7@gmail.com](mailto:waringshomas7@gmail.com)

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## Tip of the Month

**October, a time of ghoulies, ghosties and scary Pumpkins!** Ideally, first make yourselves some lush food with the innards of your pumpkins – I've seen at least 1 website with 69 Pumpkin recipes so something for everyone's tastes.

All leftovers can head into your food caddy for collection. Don't waste your money buying compostable bin liners as these won't break down in the processor. If you feel the need to use wrapping, old papers are best. Your waste food will be heading to an Anaerobic Digestion facility to sit and 'stew' for around 85 days. At the end of this time it has turned into fertiliser which heads out to our farmers to help them grow more food for us. A perfect virtuous cycle, and gas to generate electricity for up to 4,800 homes.

Food for thought, South and Vale waste food collections contribute to the 20,000 tonnes which Oxfordshire supplies to Crowmarsh every year for processing.

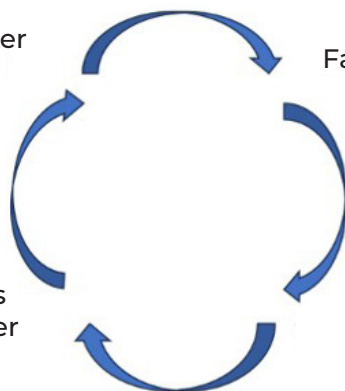
### Food cycle:

Fertiliser back to farmer

Farmer grows

Waste food becomes electricity and fertiliser

We buy, eat and waste



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**Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group**

**JACK & THE BEANSTALK** sponsored by

**Newton**

### GIANT NEWS:

We are absolutely delighted to announce that 2025's pantomime, Jack and The Beanstalk is being sponsored by local organisation Newton, whose head office is in Kingston Bagpuize Business Park.

We are very grateful for Newton's ongoing support, which makes such a meaningful impact to our small, not for profit group, enabling us to bring a fun evening out to local people and make theatre more widely accessible to our local community. Sponsorship also enables us to provide our local primary school with some complimentary family tickets for distribution.

### BEHIND THE SCENES:

Rehearsals for Jack and the Beanstalk have been in full swing since June. Our cast and director are already bringing plenty of energy (and silliness!) to the stage. From September onwards, rehearsals ramp up a notch, and October sees our famous two full-throttle weekends of set-building, prop-making, and costume creating – expect glitter, glue, and plenty of tea breaks!

### CHARITY SPOTLIGHT:

This year, we're proud to be supporting Riding for the Disabled – a brilliant cause making a real difference in people's lives.

### TICKETS FLYING FASTER THAN MAGIC BEANS

Our pantos are always a sell-out – and this year is no exception! The Saturday matinee is already completely sold out (oh yes, it is!). If you're planning to bring the family along, especially little ones, we recommend booking ASAP – the early Saturday evening show is vanishing quickly too.

And the best bit? A family of four can enjoy the whole evening for less than a single ticket at the Oxford Playhouse. Add in free parking, a licensed bar, plus teas, coffees and snacks, and you've got the perfect local night out.

### Performance Dates:

- Thursday 27th November 7.30pm
- Friday 28th November 7.30pm
- Saturday 29th November 2.00pm **(SOLD OUT)** and 6.30pm.

### Pricing:

Family ticket (2 adults + 2 children): £40

Adults: £14

Children: £8

Book now and join us for a giant-sized adventure: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingston-bagpuize-drama-group](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingston-bagpuize-drama-group)

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### Help Save a Life

### Restart A Heart Day

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October

**Did you know:** There are over 30,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests each year and sadly in the UK, less than 1 in 12 people survive. Four out of five of these happen at home.

**You can make a difference! Learn CPR**

On the **16<sup>th</sup> October** attend a **free CPR awareness session**. We'll show you how to identify a cardiac arrest (which is different from a heart attack), and how to perform CPR and use a defibrillator.

You can then practice with our training defibrillators and manikins.

No need to book, just turn up to the **Elikins Room** in the **village hall** (through the main door, turn left and we'll be there).

Morning	9.30, 10.00, 10.30, 11.00, 11.30
Afternoon	2.00, 2.30, 3.00, 3.30, 4.00, 4.30
Evening	7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30

We look forward to seeing you there,

Dave & Jane Kidd



THAMES VALLEY  
AIR AMBULANCE





## Update from Charlie Maynard MP

**MP Charlie Maynard makes formal visit to RAF Brize Norton to meet key Station personnel.**

At the end of August, Witney MP Charlie Maynard joined the Station Commander of RAF Brize Norton, Group Captain Louise Henton on a formal visit to the station in his capacity as the local Member of Parliament for the base.

Charlie's visit to the RAF station on the edge of Carterton gave him the opportunity to hold constructive meetings with the Station Commander, Group Captain Louise Henton, Commander

Air Wing, Group Captain Andy McIntyre, and also the Air Mobility Force Commander, Air Commodore Dan James.

The meetings allowed Charlie to discuss current & future issues both on station and in defence, recent events on station, and how the station can be supported over the next few years with various upcoming projects.

Charlie also discussed how the project to revive the rail link between Carterton, Witney and Oxford could be a vital asset to the base, in order to provide a strong, reliable, and modern transport link to the area, and how the line could be of strategic importance to the operational output of the station.

On top of being hosted in the Officers Mess for a luncheon with Station Executive Officers, Charlie also met with key personnel from 24, 30, LXX (70) and 99 Squadrons, including aircraft tours of the C-17 Globemaster and A400M Atlas.

Charlie additionally met personnel from Air Movements Wing, and was given a tour & a walkthrough of the Passenger Air Terminal, which many see at the global gateway to Defence operations. Speaking after the visit, MP Charlie Maynard said:

*"I was delighted to visit RAF Brize Norton to learn more about the station's operational output and the significant work that goes on around the station on a 24-7 basis, in support of global operations. I look forward to continuing to support all personnel at RAF Brize Norton in my capacity as its local Member of Parliament, and I am honoured to represent the station and its people in Parliament. I am very grateful to the Station Commander for hosting me, and I thank everyone across the station for their continued hard work in all areas."*

Please do get in touch at [charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk), if there is ever anything you want to raise, or that you need my help with.



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Advert format should ideally be submitted in a JPEG or PDF format but we will help put together your advert if we can.



## KBS Tennis Club

We have recently held our 2025 Junior Tournament getting off to a great start with our u18 yellow ball event. There was some very enjoyable, competitive tennis on display. The standard was impressive and tremendous sportsmanship was shown by all players throughout.

On day 2 the youngest players took to the courts. There were some monster rallies to keep the crowd entertained and there was great skill, stamina and determination on display. Well done to everyone who took part!



## Village Walk and Talk



30th October (Thursday) at 10am • KBS Village Hall

The Walk and Talk on 28th August was led by Sue Butler, and joined by 17 keen walkers and talkers including Catherine representing the White Horse Medical Practice who promote these events in the District. We departed from the Village Hall and headed to the east of the village via Little London and Spring Hill, we had thought of extending the walk as far as the Old Lamb and Flag, and even Cherbury Camp, but as this is situated on private land and some distance beyond Spring Hill, it was considered to be a little too far by the 17 walkers who were taking part, so we decided to return via the pleasant and quiet Beggars Lane and the Waggon Path to rejoin Draycott Road and the Village Hall, to that welcoming cup of tea or coffee and home baked cake.

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## Apple Blossoms WI



14th October (Tuesday) at 7:30pm • Southmoor Village Hall

*"There are no strangers here; Only friends you haven't yet met" (William Butler Yeats)*

### September Meeting: Wicked Women and Curious Crimes

At our September meeting, Graham Sutherland took centre stage with a thoroughly fascinating and entertaining talk on some truly unconventional women from history. With warmth and wit, he guided us through their stories, offering a glimpse into the lives (and crimes!) of these wilful characters, some dating as far back as the 1800s.

It was a window into a very different time when trials were often shockingly unfair, and in some cases, the accused weren't even allowed to speak in their own defence. All eventually kept their appointments with the hangman, quite literally providing money for old rope! Yet some of us were left wondering - were the motives really there?

A huge thank you to Graham for such an eye-opening and enjoyable evening. A true reminder that history always has more than a few surprises up its sleeve - and this one certainly kept us hanging on every word!

### Coming up ....

We've left a strategic gap in the programme, and the floor is open to our members to decide! A creative session? A games evening? Or simply a relaxed social? Whatever we choose, it's the perfect opportunity for both long-standing members and newcomers (just £5 including refreshments for visitors) to get to know each other and be warmly welcomed into the fold! Any ideas on what you would like to do - drop us an email or Facebook message. **Naomi & Jules, Apple Blossoms WI**, [appleblossomswi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:appleblossomswi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk)



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## Oxford Flower Club



Every fourth Thursday at 12pm • Cumnor Village Hall

Members didn't meet during August, but there has been lots of organisation ahead of the forthcoming season.

Future meetings include Demonstrations, Coffee Mornings, Workshops, Outings and of course various Christmas events. Qualified florists and demonstrators, who entertain us with their skills include Trudie Easton, Susan Shaw and Lorraine Saunders.

We welcome new members, so call Karen on 07967 555750 for details of our forthcoming events. We meet in Cumnor Village Hall in the afternoon of the fourth Thursday of the month.



### Recycle Your KBS News



The paper used for printing KBS News is fully recyclable. Once you've finished reading it and using it as your reference for the month, it should be placed in the green bin.



## Report from Cllr Lee Evans

I'm writing this month's KBS News report immediately after the latest County Council meeting, with a cup of tea and the last piece of cake I had left over from the recent Southmoor & Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club Show. I had a lovely time at the show, seeing some of the 300 entries – from runner beans to loaves of bread, marrows to lemon curd! - submitted from across the village.

Unfortunately, my experience in County Hall was less positive. At every meeting of the County Council, Councillors can ask up to three questions of the ruling administration. Previously, I asked about the flooding on the A417, support for children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities, and unspent developer contributions. This time, I focused on Ten Foot Bridge, tips and the need for better road repairs.

I'm very frustrated with the Council's plans for our tips. Later this year, they plan to introduce a new system that requires us to book in before we dispose of our household waste. On top of that, the Council has undertaken a consultation on reducing the availability of tips, with no option to say we would like to continue with the current opening hours. All they are offering is cuts.

At the meeting, I asked what assessment the Council has made of the impact of their policies on fly-tipping, especially in rural areas like ours. Amazingly, they do not believe it will lead to any extra fly-tipping. In fact, the Cabinet Member said that the mandatory booking system and reduced opening hours "will improve the service for the majority [of] Oxfordshire's residents". I'm afraid that's simply not credible – and I said so in the Council Chamber. I'll continue to oppose the Council's plan for tips.

I used another of my questions to ask about roads like Faringdon Road, here in the village, which have lots of heavy vehicles using them. Residents who live on Faringdon Road have told me about how relatively small defects in the road can lead to noise and vibrations being felt in their homes. To prevent this from happening, I believe the threshold for repairing residential roads used by buses and HGVs should be lower than on other roads. I asked the Cabinet Member responsible for Transport Management whether he agreed.

I'm afraid to say he effectively shrugged off the question, referring to the Council's current highway inspection policy – which I believe is inadequate. I won't be settling for that as an answer and will continue to argue for roads like Faringdon Road, and others, to get the repairs they need. As a next step, I have written to the Highways Team at County Hall to urge them to reconsider their current approach during the next policy review.

If there is anything I can do to help you in the area, please do get in touch on 07724 601 096, [lee.evans@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:lee.evans@oxfordshire.gov.uk) or at [facebook.com/LeeEvansOxfordshire](https://facebook.com/LeeEvansOxfordshire).

---

## The White Horse Medical practice - You're Invited!



**15th October (Wednesday) at 6:30pm - 8:30pm • Faringdon Catholic Church Hall**

Join us for the Patient Participation Group AGM to hear about potential changes in your local health services and the NHS 10-Year Plan.

Special Guest Talk: Dr Rob Russ will tell us about the NHS 10-Year Plan and patient care.

**Date:** Wednesday, 15 October 2025

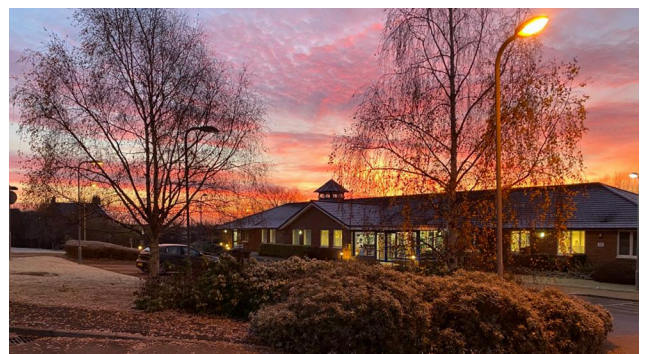
**Time:** 18:30 – 20:30

**Location:** Faringdon Catholic Church Hall (enter via parking area, SN7 7DX)

Free to attend — but please book by 8th October 2025.

To book your place, go to White Horse Medical Practice - PPG AGM event, or email [bobicb-ox.whitehorse.ppg@nhs.net](mailto:bobicb-ox.whitehorse.ppg@nhs.net)

Please send any questions before the meeting to [bobicb-ox.whitehorse.ppg@nhs.net](mailto:bobicb-ox.whitehorse.ppg@nhs.net). This meeting is open to all patients of the White Horse Medical Practice. We'd love to see you there, your voice matters!





# Abingdon RDA Charity Quiz!

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## John Blandy School Open Morning

Will your child be turning 5 between 1st September 2026 and 31st August 2027? If so, you will need to apply for a school place through Oxfordshire County Council (OCC). OCC admissions opens for primary school placements 4th November 2025 and closes 15th January 2026.

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/reception-applications/key-dates](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/reception-applications/key-dates)

We would like to warmly welcome prospective parents to John Blandy school's Open Morning on **Thursday 13th November 9.15am-10:30am.**

There will be the opportunity for you to have a tour of the school and to meet Mrs Elliott, the headteacher, as well as some of the staff and pupils. You will find out about the fantastic learning experiences and opportunities we can offer your child at your local village school.

Please contact the school office to book your place (01865 820422 or email: [office@jbl.cambrianlt.org](mailto:office@jbl.cambrianlt.org))



**OPEN  
DAY!**

**We are looking forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school!**



## Youth Matters

**Hello! I hope everyone has enjoyed being back at school and has settled in quickly. It feels as if the month has flown by and autumn has certainly rolled in!**

Last month was the spectacular and highly anticipated Village Show, where there were hundreds of entries and many glittering trophies. I entered multiple adult classes myself and was pleased with my results; I also offer many congratulations for all of those who entered and for all the trophy winners! I was absolutely amazed and blown away by the quality and range of talent we have as a community! All of the flowers, vegetables and fruit, photographs, paintings, crafts, bakes and preserves were simply superb, and that's just to name a few of the classes that were there! I also want to give a special congratulations to any children who entered the children's classes, all the entries were brilliant. Despite this, I was disappointed to see that there were no entries for the older children's classes.

On a different note, the World Athletics Championships took place mid-September in Tokyo and Team GB were absolutely fantastic. It was amazing to watch track and field stars such as Noah Lyles, Julien Alfred, Sha-Carri Richardson, Mondo Duplantis and many, many more compete over the course of nine days. Despite the quality of the sport being sky-high, Tokyo experienced its hottest summer on record and humidity rates were extreme.

October is one of my favourite months of the year, despite the cold and autumnal feeling! **Do you have a favourite month? Why that one? Write it below!**

I hope that everyone has a great month and that school goes well! If you ever feel that you need a brain-break from school, I included some useful tips in the last edition of the News to relax. Enjoy October!

*Darcey*

### Puzzle of the Month – Guess the Word

Check your answers when you are finished!

**Really easy:** o \_ c \_ t \_ o \_ b \_ e \_

**Easy:** h \_ r \_ v \_ s \_ t

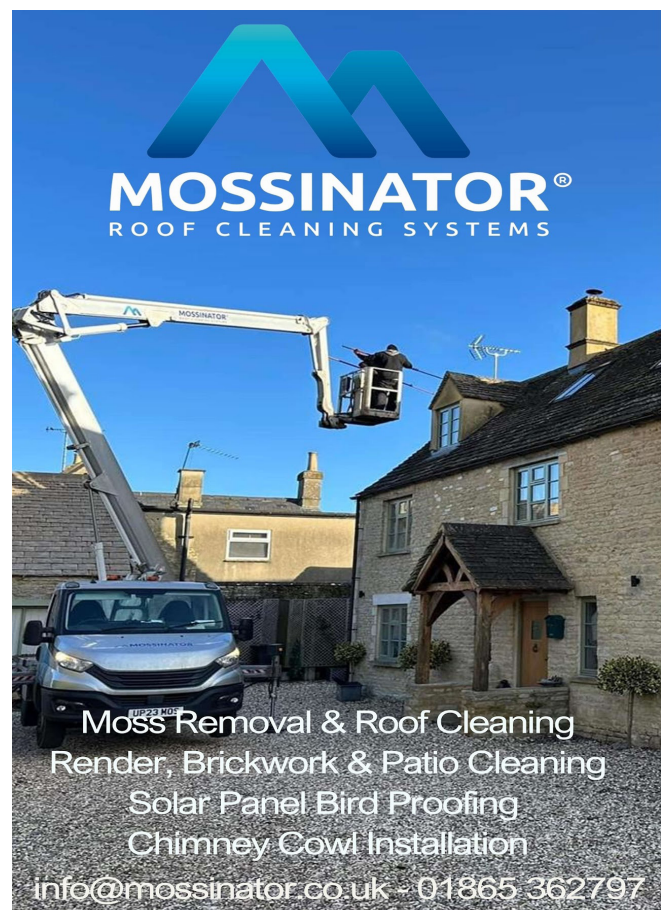
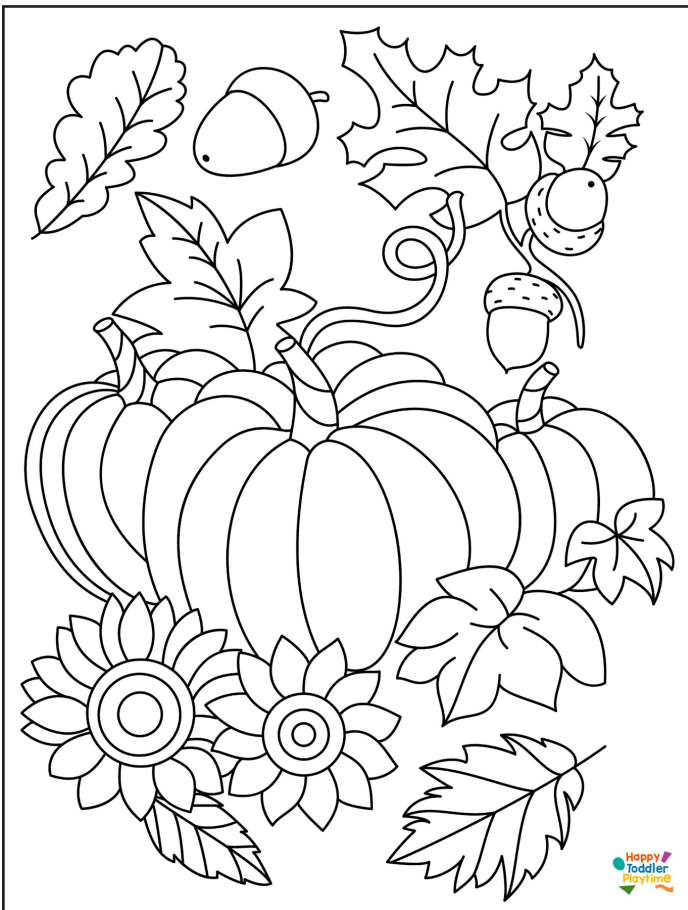
**Medium:** a \_ t \_ m \_

**Hard:** \_ u \_ p \_ \_ n

**Really hard:** a \_ \_ \_ \_ n

October, harvest, autumn, pumpkin, acorn

## Autumn Colouring





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## Magnus Macfarlane

### Wherefor a classroom

Oxford University does not really exist. Not like other universities. It is made up of 43 independent self-governing colleges each with its own constitution and its own head. It's like dealing with 43 separate companies. It's a sort of federal system. The colleges are at home for the students. There are five things in each college: a dining hall for eating; a chapel to pray; a library to study; accommodation to live and gardens to relax. Beside the colleges there is the administration. It runs the gardens, such as the Botanic Gardens; the five free museums; the Bodleian Library, the central library of the university of Oxford; the classrooms, the lecture halls, the laboratories and the faculties of the University. Facilities evolved according to need and money available.

Saint Mary the Virgin's Church chancel still bears the scars of the carving of the students in the pews from when it was used as a classroom. The first purpose-built classroom was the Divinity School in the late 1400s. Until then rooms had been rented round Oxford to use as a classroom. In the early 1600s, we had the building of the old school's quad - with designated classrooms for each subject area. At last, a bit of central organisation.

The teaching of science was tagged on or into other subjects. This was remedied in the mid-1800s with the building of the Natural History Museum, which is really a building full of teaching facilities including classrooms. The science area has continued to grow both next to University Parks and in the science parks developing around Oxford – most recently that red building in the North.

Ironically, Humanities have never had such central focus. Until now. The Radcliffe Quarter, formally the Radcliffe Infirmary, is just coming to completion. Since the turn of this century, the Matthew Wales mathematical Institute has centralised both applied and pure maths. The Blavatnik school of government has centralised politics and now, in October 2025, the Stephen Schwartzman building will bring together seven humanities disciplines, with teaching facilities including classrooms all in one building. All of this has a central theme. Whereas before a much more silo subject teaching area had developed. New thinking in the University is to cross fertilise across subjects. It has even been happening on a college level. Our newest College, Ruben College, founded in 2019, expressly has the objective of cross fertilisation mixing students from the humanities and the science areas.



The Mathematical Institute



Blavatnik School of Government



Divinity School

**Editor's note:** *People who live and work around us, why not tell us about your work, we think your neighbours might be amazed at the skill of people in the village!!*



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