

KBS NEWS

The Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Village News

DELIVERED MONTHLY TO EVERY HOUSE
IN THE VILLAGE

Volume 52

Number 10

November 2025



We all know that we live in a lovely village and have a wonderful community, but did you know that nominations for the **BBC 'Make a Difference Awards'** included **three Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor residents**? More details on page 4.



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5th of November in the UK is celebrated as Bonfire Night, also known as Guy Fawkes Night.

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



Our Beautiful Village in Autumn



Picture by Ian Ashby

KBS NEWS AGM

The KBS News AGM will take place on
Wednesday 19th November at 8.00pm
in the Swallow Room at the Village Hall.

All residents will be welcome.
**Please come along and meet
the KBS News Team.**

INSIDE THIS MONTH

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KBS News Team

Editor: Greta Leonaviciene
Editorial Team: Ilona El Madi, Georgia Rice, Stephanie Cater
Contact: editorkbsnews@gmail.com
Advertising team: Fatemeh Ebrat, Linda Merriman, Roy Wolfe.
Contact: advertsksnews@gmail.com
Chair: Melanie Leggett
Secretary: Marie Traynor, kbsnewssecretary@gmail.com
Treasurer: Gill Farrington, treasurerkbsnews@gmail.com
Proofreaders: Caroline 'Hawkeye' Ashby, Melanie Leggett.
Distribution: Jo Brett & Team. **Contact:** distributionkbsnews@gmail.com
Committee Member: Lesley Sanderson

**Copy date for next
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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.

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Samaritans - www.samaritans.org , 1116 123			Childline www.childline.org.uk , 0800 1111	
The Cedar Community Club - where older people meet with friends old and new 01865 686472				
Community Issues - contact District Councillor Jill Rayner at jill.rayner@whitehorsedc.gov.uk				



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







Village Diary

Village Hall Booking Details - email: Southmoorvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk

NOVEMBER				Page
St John the Baptist Parish Church, Kingston Bagpuize Services. – See full details on the Church Page				5
Sunday	2 nd	9.00am	Memorial Service - Remembering with thanks, St John the Baptist Church	19
Monday	3 rd	6.30pm	Parish Council Monthly Meeting - Swallow Room, KBS Village Hall	14
Tuesday	4 th	7.15pm	KBS Gardening Club AGM, KBS Village Hall	13
Thursday	6 th	9-12pm	Oxfordshire AGE UK “Information Fair” at the KBS Café, KBS Village Hall	7,12
Thursday	6 th	10.30am	Active Buggies, Free Fitness Session for Post Natal Participants, Millennium Green	10
Sunday	9 th	10.20am	Remembrance Service at the Millennium Green	5
		11.00am	Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial	
Tuesday	11 th	7.30pm	Apple Blossoms WI with guest speaker Marie-Louise Kerr on "People behind the blue plaques", KBS Village Hall	23
Thursday	13 th	9.15am	John Blandy Primary School Open Morning for September 2026 year starters	25
Friday	14 th	7.00pm	Film & Music Night. The Royal Opera’s La Fille Du Régiment’, KBS Village Hall	12
Sunday	16 th	4.00pm	Last Date / Time for copy to KBS News for the November edition	2
Wednesday	19 th	8.00pm	KBS News AGM, KBS Village Hall Swallow Room	1
Thursday	20 th	7.00pm	Longworth History Society, Stephen Wass "The Peculiar History of Fishponds and Fishing in Oxfordshire and around”, KBS Village Hall	6
Thursday	27 th	12.00pm	Oxford Flower Club, Cumnor Village Hall	23
Thursday	27 th	10.00am	Village Walk and Talk starting at KBS Village Hall, last walk of the year	24
Thursday	27 th	7.30pm	Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group presents this year's pantomime: JACK & THE BEANSTALK at KBS Village Hall	18,28
Friday	28 th	7.30pm		
Saturday	29 th	2.00pm		
		6.30pm		
DECEMBER				Page
Monday	1 st	6.30pm	Parish Council Monthly Meeting - Swallow Room, KBSVH	14
Tuesday	2 nd	7.15pm	Christmas Supper with the KBS Gardening Club, 2-course sit-down meal with a demonstration of Circle Dancing (led by Joan with her dancers aka ‘The Arcs’!)	13
Saturday	6 th	tbc	Father Christmas in KBS, collecting food and gift donations for local families	13

REGULAR VILLAGE 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	Mondays 6-7.15pm
Apple Quilters	2nd & 4th Monday each month 10am-2pm	1st Longworth Cubs	Tuesdays 6-7.30pm
Clubbercise	Mondays 8-9pm		Wednesdays 5.45-7.15pm
Dance Fitness	Tuesdays 2.30-3.30pm	1st Longworth Explorers	Wednesdays 7.30-9pm
Fitness Session	Mondays 9.15-10am tel 07769 883199	1st Longworth Scouts	Thursdays 7.30-9pm
French for Fun	Wednesdays (term time only) 9.30-11am	At The Bowls Club, Oxford Road, Kingston Bagpuize	
KBS Badminton Club	Improvers & Above Saturdays 9-10.30am Improvers & Returners Wednesday 6.30-8pm Intermediates & Above Monday 6.15-7.30pm	Bowls Clubs Roll Up	Tuesdays & Thursdays Winter 1.30pm / Summer 2.00pm
KB Drama Group	3rd Tuesday (and 5th when it occurs) at 7.30pm (see Church Hall for other days)	At Millennium Green Oxford Road, Kingston Bagpuize	
KBS Cafe	Thursdays 9am-12pm	Junior Park Run	Sundays 9am
KBS Gardening Club	1st Tuesday each month 7.15pm	At Jubilee Sports Field, Edward Strauss Park	
KBS Pilates	Thursdays 1.30-2.30pm	Kingston Bagpuize Cricket Club	Junior Training Fridays 6-8pm
KBS Tennis Club	Tuesday 9-11am Senior Men's Open Wednesday 6.30-8.30pm Ladies Open Thursdays 6-10pm: Men's Open Sundays 10am-12pm: Mixed Club Morning	In St John the Baptist Church Hall	
Longworth & Dist History Society	3 rd Thursday every month at 7.00pm	KB Drama Group	1st, 2nd & 4th Tuesday in the month at 7:30pm (see Village Hall for other days)
Southmoor Baby & Toddlers	Fridays (term time only) 10-11.30am	KBS Art and Craft Friendship Club	Alternate Mondays 9.30am-12pm
Table Tennis (over 55's)	Tuesdays 11am-12pm (currently no vacancies) For info email: bobsouthmoor@hotmail.com	In Longworth Village Hall	
Yoga Classes	Intermediates Tuesdays 6-7pm Seniors Wednesdays 10.30-11.15am Beginners Thursdays 6-7pm	IYENGAR Yoga (term time only)	Mondays 7-8.30pm Tuesdays 11.45am-1.15pm
Village Walk	Last Thursday in month 10am (not in Dec)	KARATE	Little Ninjas (3-5yrs) at 4pm - 4.30pm Kids Class (6-12yrs) 4.35pm - 5.25pm Mixed Class (6yrs+) 5.30pm - 6.30pm
In Hinton Waldrist Village Hall		PILATES	Tuesdays 9.15am & 5.45pm Thursdays 9.15am & 6.30pm
Cedar Community Club		ZUMBA	Thursdays 10.30am
		Tuesdays & Wednesday 9.30am-3pm	

NOVEMBER BIN COLLECTION		
Wed 5th	Food Bin / Green Bin Collection/Brown Bin + Textiles & Batteries in a separate bag on top of the Bin *Extra garden waste collection: you can put out up to 4 additional sacks (60L black refuse-style sacks or boxes) of garden waste per subscription. Sacks and boxes must be left open so crews can easily empty them.	
Wed 12th	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items	
Wed 19th	Food Bin / Green Bin Collection/Brown Bin + Textiles & Batteries in a separate bag on top of the Bin ww	
Wed 26th	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items	

BBC Make A Difference Awards



Margo Evans

We all know that we live in a lovely village and have a wonderful community, but did you know that we also have the winner of the BBC Oxford Great Neighbour Award living here? Nominations for the 'Make a Difference Awards' included three Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor residents.

The lovely Margo Evans was nominated for the 'Great Neighbour Award' together with Dave and Jane Kidd who were nominated for the 'Volunteer of the Year' award. All attended the awards ceremony at Oxford Town Hall and a shocked Margo was announced as the winner of the 'Great Neighbour Award' with Jane and Dave being highly commended in their category.

In true volunteer style, Margo, Dave and Jane didn't want any fuss made and didn't even want this acknowledged but were persuaded otherwise. Margo helps with many village events and regular activities including, along with many others the monthly delivery of the KBS News. Dave and Jane's ongoing support and fund raising for the Thames Valley Air Ambulance, and the recent free CPR training day at the Village Hall highlights some of their contribution to our Community.



Jane and Dave Kidd

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Services in November at St. John the Baptist

stjb.churchinsight.com



Coffee and biscuits after all our services – a good time to chat and make new friends.

Sunday 2 nd	9.00am 10.30am	Memorial Service (see highlights) Morning Worship with Children's Church
Sunday 9 th Green	10.20am 11.00am	Remembrance Sunday service on the Millennium Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial (see highlights)
Sunday 16 th	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Worship with Children's Church
Sunday 23 rd	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Family Communion with Children's Church
Sunday 30 th	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion All-age Advent Sunday worship

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS and CHRISTINGLE

November is a remembering month and we have two special services:

1. **Memorial Service at 9am on Sunday 2nd November.** This is a service when we remember with thanks all those we have loved and see no longer. If you have lost loved ones in the past few years, this service is particularly for you. There will be an opportunity to light candles in memory of loved ones who have died.
2. Our village Remembrance Sunday service begins at 10.20am on **Sunday 9th November** on the Millennium Green and then continues with an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 11am. The Oxford Road and the A415 will be closed for the two-minute silence.

*On Sunday 7th December at 10.30am in the Village Hall we will have our **Christingle Service** – everyone is welcome, especially children and families. Please let us know you're coming (contact Hazel on hb.brennan@hotmail.com) so we will have enough oranges and refreshments!*

The **church opening times have changed** and the church is now open more frequently. The church will now be open for private prayer **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 9am to 4pm**. The church belongs to the village, so do feel free to drop in. If you would appreciate the church being open at other times please contact Catherine, our vicar.

Children's Church now takes place every Sunday (unless we have All-age worship) at 10.30am in the Church Room with crafts and activities. All children and families are 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 phone 07865 827679. Her usual working days are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (and Sunday services).



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VILLAGE VOICES

Send your views to editorkbsnews@gmail.com



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We are a small and friendly carriage driving group based in Charney Bassett.

We drive with our participants on **Wednesday mornings between 10.00am - 12 noon from April to October.**

On other variable dates and over the winter we drive with volunteers for training and exercise purposes.

We have two ponies and are looking for new volunteers who are familiar with handling horses/ponies. No carriage driving experience is necessary as training will be given.

If you have time to spare (even if it is not every Wednesday!) and would like to find out more please contact us:

Email: Mandyhook2@gmail.com • Mobile: 07884 407 510

Email: Catherine.jessop@btinternet.com • Mobile: 07470 300 203

Visit our website for more info:

www.shiffordcarriagedriving.org



Karen Whitbread @ Sagrada Familia Barcelona



Don't forget our 'Out & About with the KBS News' feature.
Send pics to editorkbsnews@gmail.com



Longworth & District History Society



20th November (Thursday) at 7pm • "The Peculiar History of Fishponds and Fishing in Oxfordshire and around" • Southmoor Village Hall

At our November meeting Stephen Wass is coming to talk about "The Peculiar History of Fishponds and Fishing in Oxfordshire and around". Dr. Wass works as a freelance archaeologist, most regularly for the National Trust, and specialises in historic gardens.

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 20th November in Southmoor Village Hall. Doors open at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. The bar will be open, and there will be books to browse, borrow or buy. All welcome. Members free and visitors £4. **Pam Woodward**

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
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Sunday Mass 10.00 am



KBS Café



Every Thursday 9am to 12pm
• Southmoor Village Hall



6th November (Thursday) • Oxfordshire AGE UK "Information Fair"

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

We are looking for more people to make cakes for the Café. We would only ask you no more than every 5 to 6 weeks. We are more than happy to pay for the ingredients. If you can help, please contact Caroline Ashby on 07984 523955 or Ruth on 01865 821386. We look forward to seeing you. *Caroline Ashby*



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you very much to all the people who supported this very worthy event on the 25th September at the KBS Café. **We raised £600** and had approximately 75 people at this event. Special thanks to the people who made cakes, donated Raffle prizes or helped in the kitchen on the day. *Ruth Hastings and Caroline Ashby*



News from the Bowls Club

Oxford Short Afternoon league commenced for the 2025-26 season. Kingston Kites have played three matches so far. Learning to bowl on short mats takes time for players to adjust from bowling outside to inside and on a much shorter mat. We have accounted for ourselves well so far but could do better. *Tom Waring, Club Captain. waringthomas7@gmail.com*

Kingston Bagpuize & Southmoor Bowls Club League Positions								
	Position	Played	Won	Drawn	Shots For	Shots Against	Shots Difference	Points
Short Mat Afternoon league	-	3	2	0	24	23	1	8

The family of Barry Muir says Thank you



The family of Barry Muir wish to express our thanks to all family, friends and neighbours for their sympathy and support extended to us after the death of our dear husband and father, in Witney Community Hospital on 25th August 2025. *Jill, Andrew and Sara Muir*

Tip of the Month



As it slowly gets a little colder, draughts around the house from under doors become a little more noticeable. Here's a link to help you make your own right sized draught excluder: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/discover/crafts/make-a-cosy-draught-excluder.

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KBS Badminton Club



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

• **Southmoor Village Hall**

We're currently looking for players to join our Saturday morning and Monday evening sessions. You need to have your own racquet, to be familiar with the rules and to be prepared to run around a bit – unless you're better than us and know how to make us run around instead! We're quite competitive but our main emphasis is on playing for fun and we laugh a lot. After playing on a Saturday morning, you'll feel good about yourself for the rest of the day.

The Saturday morning sessions run from 9 – 10.30am and the Monday evenings from 6.15 – 7.30pm. Please note that there is NO SESSION on Monday 24th November due to the Pantomime. (Cue the customary "Oh yes there is!", "Oh no there isn't!"...) 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 are at Southmoor Village Hall.

Costs are very reasonable as we run on a non-profit basis and the first couple of visits are free so you can try us out for size. Space is limited so do get in touch with us first if you'd like to come along. Contacts are: sharon@cherrytree21.plus.com (01865 820399) for Mondays and Saturday, jenny.frame@live.co.uk for Wednesday Improvers and Scott spj74@outlook.com for Wednesday Beginners. *Sharon Cooper*

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Health Matters

As the evenings draw in and daylight hours shorten, many people notice a shift in their mood and energy. This change is often linked to **Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)**, a type of depression that typically appears during the darker months. Reduced sunlight can disrupt our body's internal clock and lower serotonin levels, leading to feelings of tiredness, sadness, and lack of motivation.

If you find your mood dipping as autumn deepens, there are several ways to help lift your spirits. Light therapy lamps can be very effective, mimicking natural daylight to boost energy and mood. Try to spend time outdoors each day, especially in the morning, to soak up as much natural light as possible. Regular exercise, even a short walk, releases endorphins and improves sleep quality. Mindfulness practices, such as meditation or gentle yoga, can also help reduce stress and promote emotional balance.

Lastly, don't underestimate the power of connection. Meeting friends, joining a class, or booking a relaxing therapy session can all help maintain a sense of wellbeing. As the nights grow longer, taking small, intentional steps to support your mental health can make all the difference.

Klair Price, Kingsmoor Clinic

Maintain a healthy sleep schedule

Fill your plate with foods that nourish your body

Take vitamin D supplements

Use a light box

**ACTIVE BUGGIES
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Starts Thursday 6 November for 6 weeks
Time 10.30am - 11.15am

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Emma.Watson@southandvale.gov.uk



1st Longworth Scout Group needs you!

To continue providing the high-quality activities and Scouting experience that our young people deserve, we urgently need more volunteers across our sections. Whether you can spare a few hours a week or help out occasionally, your time and support would make a huge difference. Think you can help? Over to our Scouts Section to explain a bit more!

First up, we talked to two of our Scouts about what Scouting meant to them "We love Scouts", here are a few reasons why:

- * *We love going to the Millennium green, because we play "Man Hunt" and "Capture the Flag" in the dark!*
- * *Making fires & cooking cinnamon apples (which are very good).*
- * *You get to hang out with your friends, whilst doing fun activities.*
- * *The leaders (Rosie & Justin) are really helpful, kind & supportive. They also make scouts a lovely place for everyone and make sure no one gets left out.*

These are only a few reasons why; there are so many more. We recommend Scouts to everyone because you get to make new friends and learn in the funniest way possible, we love coming to Scouts every Thursday night. Freya & Lilly

We also asked our Scout Section leaders what you can expect from volunteering and here is what they told us:

"I've been volunteering now for over 5 years and have found it to be immensely rewarding. At first it seemed a bit daunting but there was no need to worry - the training is excellent and there's loads of support available from others in the leadership team. It's been a real privilege to help deliver the programme to young people, and I've also personally benefitted: from developing my leadership skills to learning how to navigate. Most of all it's been fun, and I would encourage anyone who is interested in volunteering to give it a try!" Justin



"I've been volunteering for three and a half years and it's genuinely rewarding. Watching young people gain confidence as they progress through Scouts or seeing that moment when a skill clicks for them, those are the moments that make it worthwhile. Planning a varied programme with my team leader keeps it interesting, and the wider team of volunteers

is really friendly and supportive. If you're considering volunteering, it's a great way to contribute and you'll definitely get more out of it than you think." Rosie

Want to find out more about how your time and skills can have a positive impact? Get in touch with us via Gsl@1stlongworthscouts.org.uk and we can talk you through the options. **1st Longworth Scout Group**

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KBS Film and Music Night



14th November (Friday) at 7pm • 'The Royal
Opera's La Fille Du Régiment' • Church Room

Our next Film Night
will be on Friday 14th November in
the Church Room when we will be
showing The Royal Opera's La Fille
Du Régiment by Gaetano Donizetti
with Natalie Dessay as Marie and
Juan Diego Florez as Tonio.

The opera is about Marie, who
was abandoned and raised by the
French regiment who found her.
She falls in love with Tonio, who isn't a member of the regiment,
after promising that she would only marry a member of their rank
– and the drama only increases from there, with long lost relatives
finding Marie and trying to take her away from the company.
Youthful rebellion, family drama, and tender young love—La
Fille du Régiment revels in both the hilarious mishaps and the
heartfelt moments of adolescence.



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 us know if you will
be joining. We would hate to have to turn anyone away on the
night. *Peter Beer 01865 820805 or Margo Evans 01865 820900 or
margo.evans@mac.com*



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When: Thursday 6th November 10am-12noon


Where: KBS Cafe, Kingston Bagpuize and Southmoor Village Hall,
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Rachel 07827 235460
community@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk
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 **4th November (Tuesday) • AGM**
2nd December (Tuesday) •
Christmas Supper • Southmoor
Village Hall

After a very entertaining meeting in October, when Paul Green brought half of his shop along and persuaded us to purchase various plants for their unique sensory properties(!), we now have two social events to look forward to. The first is our AGM on Tuesday 4th November. As well as carrying out the official tasks of voting for a Chair and a Committee and signing off the accounts, we'll take a look back over the last year and reflect on the various talks, visits and social events over some cheese & wine. This is an opportunity for members – and potential members – to engage in discussion about what we get up to and to put forward any comments, suggestions or requests for things they would like us to do next year. Doors open 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

There will be opportunity after the formalities to renew membership or join for 2026. The cost will remain at the bargain price of £15 for the year, which offers free entry to 8 talks during the year including complimentary refreshments. There are also other perks such as entry to member's open gardens and free entry into RHS gardens. We'll also be selling tickets for our Christmas Supper, which takes place on Tuesday 2nd December. Tickets cost £15 and include a 2-course sit-down meal with entertainment – but remember to bring your own drinks. This year, we look forward to a demonstration of Circle Dancing (led by our very own Joan with her dancers aka 'The Arcs'!) with the opportunity to have a go for anyone who wants to. Tickets are available to anyone who would like to join us, but priority will be given to members and guests.

We have a great programme of speakers in place for 2026! Our regular meetings will resume on Tuesday 6th January. Look out for more details in the next issue of KBS News. Our talks and the above events all take place at Southmoor Village Hall. For more information, email skbgardeningclub@gmail.com or visit www.skbgardeningclub.org.uk.
Sharon Cooper (Chair)



**FATHER CHRISTMAS
VISITS KBS
SATURDAY 6th
DECEMBER**

Father Christmas will be resting his reindeer while he drives round Kingston and Southmoor with his helpers on Saturday 6th December, inviting you to bring him gifts of food for local families who will need to rely on food banks this Christmas, and toys for The Salvation Army's Children at Christmas Appeal.

He knows things are tight for everyone but asks that you are generous and make it a happier Christmas for children and families who have very little to look forward to this year.

Please see more details in the December KBS News



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Meeting minutes and appendices are available online at www.kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk/document-category/minutes and on Parish Council Notice Boards.

Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Parish Council Meeting Update **Meeting held 6 October 2025**

The Parish Council welcomed Sian Keeling, Development Director of David Wilson Homes, who provided an important update on the Ferrers Green development east of Kingston Bagpuize. Following feedback from local residents during public engagement, the original plan for a cricket pitch has been revised in favour of multi-use green spaces accessible to all residents year-round. The development will include a local centre with two retail units, with hopes to attract a pharmacy, as well as a new primary school to be built by the county council. A new link road between the A415 and A420 will feature roundabouts at each end, with traffic calming measures including buildouts near Sunrise Nursery and raising of the mini-roundabout by the Co-op.

District Councillor Jill Rayner reported that planning inspectors have recommended the withdrawal of the Joint Local Plan from the examination process due to unfulfilled cooperation requirements with Oxford City Council. The Council supported proposals for a new speed limit on the A420 and link roads, though members stressed the need for speed cameras to enforce the new limits. Traffic calming measures approved by Oxfordshire County Council will require substantial surveys and legal work, with costs to be included in next year's budget.

The Council made several decisions affecting village amenities and facilities. A teen shelter has now been installed at the recreation ground, and work is progressing on the bench trail project, with schoolchildren excitedly involved in designing the playground bench. The Council approved a one-off payment of £485 to restore the burial ground's north-eastern border, and agreed to fencing work along School Lane for £737, ensuring the well-used gap in the current fencing is retained. Additionally, the Council voted to support a community village website in partnership with KBS News, committing to a cost-effective three-year plan.

The Council met with Hallam Land regarding potential development around Kingston Bagpuize Business Park, expressing support for employment opportunities while emphasising the importance of protecting dog walking areas and dark skies.

Preparations for Remembrance Sunday, November 9, are well underway, with a Deputy Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, representatives from the Army, RAF and US Air Force all invited to attend. Road closure applications have been submitted, wreaths ordered, and arrangements made for a sound system and trumpeter.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan is progressing well, with final changes being made based on Vale requirements, including updating photographs. Once complete, the plan will undergo independent assessment before proceeding to a referendum, which requires approval from 51% of voters to pass.

The next Parish Council meetings are scheduled for Monday 3 November and Monday 1 December. Members of the public are always welcome to attend and participate during the public participation session.

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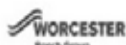
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Recipe of the month

Rumbledethumps

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/rumbledethumps>

Similar to bubble and squeak, rumbledethumps are a traditional Scottish dish of buttery mash, cabbage and swede, baked until golden brown and crispy. You can cook them earlier in the day and reheat in the oven – give them an extra 20 minutes or so from cold.

Prepare: less than 30 mins. **Cook:** 30 mins to 1 hour **Serve:** 6

Ingredients

- 600g/1lb 5oz large potatoes, peeled and chopped into large chunks
- 400g/14oz swede (known as turnip in Scotland), peeled and chopped into large chunks
- 75g/2¾oz butter
- 250g/9oz savoy cabbage or kale, finely sliced
- salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 25g/1oz cheddar, grated

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 180C/160C Fan/Gas 4.
2. Cook the potatoes and swede in a saucepan of salted boiling water until tender. Drain well and return to the pan.
3. Heat 50g/2oz butter in a pan and gently cook the cabbage for a few minutes, until the cabbage is tender but retains its colour.
4. Add the cabbage to the pan with the potatoes and swede. Add the remaining 25g/1oz butter and mash together using a potato masher. Season, to taste, with salt and freshly ground black pepper.
5. Place the mashed vegetables into an ovenproof lidded dish and top with the cheese. Cover with a lid and bake in the oven for about 30 minutes, then remove the lid and continue to cook for a further 15 minutes, or until piping hot and golden-brown on top.



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The ADALI Restaurant 14 Wallingford Street, Wantage, OX12 8AX

We inadvertently visited this Turkish restaurant on a Thursday lunchtime ... long story! Following a planning error, we were guided there by the restaurant reviews on Google maps. After a few rounds of the one-way system we found it! It was definitely one of those days!

Just before the time of booking, we had been customers of the local Waitrose so we used their car park for an hour and a quarter whilst we went across the road to the Adali. Otherwise there is parking in the Market Square and shoppers' parking around the corner. Well signposted from the centre.

The restaurant was not busy so seating was easy on a table for two and service was quick. The overall appearance inside was cool and functional. Very low bench seats with seating for 4-6 and square tables for 2, 4, 6 or more. Someone was in the restaurant designing and booking a family celebration for 12 people. The food clearly has a good local reputation.

Be careful where you sit in the restaurant - the kitchen is open to view. My vegetarian friend had the discomfort of watching half an animal being chopped up. This possibly contributed to her lack of enjoyment of her vegetable Moussaka!



The full menu was comprehensive, covering vegetarian and vegan options as well as meat and fish dishes. Main courses were priced at £18-£20. There was a lunch menu with a good selection of dishes at a special price of £13.95 for 2 courses. Drinks were available - wines, spirits, beers, two cocktails and soft drinks. I chose Hummus to start and Chicken Guvec (casserole) for main. My friend had Tabbouleh to start, followed by Moussaka.

The picture below is of the starters. Abundant amounts of food. The hummus was tasty as were the warm flatbreads. The Tabbouleh was bereft of the cracked wheat and mint! Disappointing!



My chicken main was warming and pleasant. There was a lot of chicken together with aubergine and mushroom casserole with cheese on top. The Moussaka was a bit oily and did not go down well.

We didn't have desserts although there was a fair selection of two typically Turkish dishes; a chocolate fudge cake; and ice cream.

The lady serving us was pleasant and helpful and allowed us to pay separately for what we ate. *Wilrich, two KBS foodies*

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The countdown to panto season has officially begun, as the Drama Group prepares to bring Jack and the Beanstalk to the village this November.

A Village Production with Big Energy

Rehearsals began back in June, and the cast has wasted no time getting into character — with plenty of enthusiasm, comedy and the occasional ad-lib. Our famously lively October weekends dedicated entirely to building sets, crafting props and creating costumes have now been completed. Our set is up, costumes complete, lines learnt, dance routines mastered ... all we need now is an audience.

Supporting a Worthy Cause

Each year, the panto supports a local charity, and for 2025 the group is proud to be fundraising for Riding for the Disabled, an organisation making a profound difference to the lives of children and adults through therapeutic horse-riding experiences.

Tickets Selling Faster Than You Can Say "Fee-Fi-Fo-Fum!"

The show hasn't even opened yet — and already the Saturday afternoon performance is completely sold out. The early Saturday evening show is also selling rapidly, so families are being encouraged to book sooner rather than later to avoid disappointment.

With family tickets at just £40, the entire household can enjoy an evening's entertainment for less than the price of a single seat at the Oxford Playhouse. Add in free parking, a licensed bar, and all the tea, coffee and snacks you could wish for, and you've got a brilliant night out right on your doorstep.

Performance Dates:

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

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

Adults: £14

Children: £8

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Kingston Bagpuize Village Art and Craft Club



3rd November (Monday) at 9:30am
• St. John the Baptist Church Hall

As October began, members enjoyed working on their own projects as they chatted and drank tea. A lovely way to spend a morning. 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. 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 November 3rd but at present we have reached full capacity. **Jean Allsworth 07397530144**

Memorial Service - Remembering with thanks

Sunday 2nd November 2025 at 9am
St John the Baptist Church Kingston Bagpuize

You are invited to a quiet reflective service with the opportunity to remember loved ones who have died and to light a candle in their memory.

Everyone most welcome!



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KBS Nature

Mark Twain said that truth is stranger than fiction... and October's Nature Notes proved the point! The sharp eyed amongst you will have noticed the disappearance of the photos referred to in the text. Spooky! Was this a Hallowe'en trick or treat? No, it was a small hiccup at the KBS News for which they apologise. The unusual photos of Hissing Sid's snakeskin jacket and the unfortunate fate of the wasp at the jaws of the hornet are included with this month's KBS Nature. Thanks go to all the volunteers in the KBS News Team who give up lots of their time, each month, to bring us all in the village a wonderful monthly magazine.

Meanwhile my favourite time of year is upon us – Autumn. I just love the colours, the light and the smells of this season. The Unofficial Friday Walking Club took a visit to Silchester (the Other Mrs C did a lot of her archaeology as an undergrad there at the Roman town of Calleva Atrebatum).

This year has been a mast year which means that it is a bumper year for many nuts, fruits and seeds – especially acorns. A mast year usually happens every 5-10 years and a single oak tree can produce 10,000 acorns. There was certainly a carpet of acorns underfoot and plenty still in the trees. The acorns shown are from the Pedunculate (or Common or English) Oak (*Quercus robur*). There were also lots of ivy flowers – a great source of nectar at this time of year for Great Admiral butterflies, bees and hornets. We also spotted plenty of sloe berries. This fruit of the blackthorn is too bitter to eat raw but can be used to make jam and, of course, sloe gin.

Next month – it's CHRISSTTTMAAAAASSSS so I will be suggesting some gifts for anyone who is interested in nature. Until then, 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). **Best wishes, Linda.**



Snakeskin



Hornet



Sloe



Ivy



Acorn

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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!!



Update from Charlie Maynard MP

I am pleased to tell you that I have recently been appointed by our party leader, Sir Ed Davey MP, to Lib Dem Front Bench as Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

There are many challenges facing the UK financially, and I will use the role to highlight the issues facing all my constituents and Britons across the UK. At the same time I will also continue to seek to be an excellent local champion for the Witney constituency – standing up for the local community by continuing to address issues locally and working hard for them in Parliament.

The party's record 72 MPs have secured major concessions from the government including better support for family carers, solar panels on every new home and free school meals for every child in poverty.

On 15th September, I spoke in a debate about the terrible state of SEND provision across the country. I hear so many cases of families who are absolutely desperate to get support for their children. Yet waiting lists are horrendously long and schools are overwhelmed & underfunded. It is a massive, systemic issue and one that the Government urgently needs to get a grip on.

I've recently asked about how we can upskill teachers, as teacher training doesn't reflect the increasing number of pupils with SEND needing support in their classrooms. The Mulberry Bush school in Standlake, who I met with last month, does a fantastic job, leading outreach from specialist schools to share their knowledge and experience with teachers in mainstream schools. I'd love to see a similar model used across the country and have asked the Minister if there is scope to explore this. I know just what a huge challenge this is here in our area, and it is something I'm working hard on alongside councillors, council officers and school leaders, to try and build capacity in the SEND system locally.

I also spoke in Parliament in a debate over the Government's Bus Services' Bill highlighting concerns which had been raised with me by the excellent teams at West Oxfordshire Community Transport and First and Last Mile, who do such a great job locally. While the aims of the Bill are good, I am concerned that its provisions will have some negative unintended consequences for small operators and community transport providers. I've asked the Government to consider how this can be mitigated as it would be terrible to lose any of the community transport operators that we depend on locally.

This month I also attended a rally for a cause dear to my heart: Brain Cancer Justice. I was very proud to support my sister and a team who delivered a petition to 10 Downing Street, calling for more investment for research into treatments for brain cancer. Brain cancer is tragically the biggest cancer killer of children and adults under 40, yet it gets just 1% of the national spend on cancer. If you would be interested in signing the petition, I and everyone at Brain Cancer Justice would be so grateful for your support: Invest in brain cancer and give rights – turn terminal into treatable - Petitions.

If you'd be interested to hear more, please do visit my website: **www.charliemaynard.co.uk**. Finally, please don't forget that me and my team are always here to help if you need us so do reach out on **charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk**.

Need help with your garden..?

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KBS Tennis Club

It's been a busy month on court, summer league fixtures have been coming to an end and our Ladies A team and Mixed A team have won their respective divisions- congratulations to everyone involved.

The finals day for our in house tennis festival took place, the weather was on our side and there was some great tennis being played. Congratulations to all of our winners - please see our Facebook page for photos of them all.

We were also pleased to host Gary Shaughnessy (chair of Parkinson's UK) as he was completing a challenge of completing 30 different sports in 30 days - his total so far was £22k.

As well as competitive tennis we also play some friendlies against other clubs- this month we visited Benson Tennis Club and enjoyed some great tennis.



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Apple Blossoms WI



11th November (Tuesday) at 7:30pm • Southmoor Village Hall

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

Games, games, games were on the cards!

In October we were treated to a brilliantly fun evening hosted by our own members. There may have been no ghosts or ghouls in sight, but our October meeting was full of spirit! We enjoyed a mix of classic and new games, from testing our aim with ring toss to getting our brains in gear with Yahtzee and Qwirkle. Laughter filled the hall as everyone mingled, teamed up, and chatted over plenty of tea, coffee, and a glass of wine or two! It was a lovely, lively evening where fun and friendship were firmly in play.

Looking ahead – there's nowt as famous as folk!

In November, we're delighted to welcome back Marie-Louise Kerr to our village hall as our guest speaker. Have you ever spotted a blue plaque historical marker and wondered about the person behind it? Who they were? What did they do to deserve such recognition? Marie-Louise will be sharing her fascinating knowledge of the people behind the prestigious blue plaques of South Oxfordshire. Whether you've noticed these plaques before or never seen one, join us for an evening of stories, history, and insight into the famous (and sometimes infamous!) folk who've helped shape Oxfordshire's past. **Naomi & Jules, Apple Blossoms WI**, appleblossomswi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk



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Oxford Flower Club



Every fourth Thursday at 12pm • Cumnor Village Hall

Trudie Easton, our demonstrator for the afternoon, gave us a very interesting talk about bee keeping. The focus for her arrangements was based on 6 famous ladies who were all beekeepers.

- Cleopatra who kept hives near temples so she could trade the honey. She introduced honey for bathing and beauty products.
- Mary Seacole who encouraged herbal remedies with honey through her nursing.
- Agnes Baden Powell, who set up the Girl Guide movement, influenced members to study meadow plants enjoyed by bees.
- Vita Sackville-West, an English poet, and keen gardener. She is remembered for the White Garden at Sissinghurst that was filled with aromatic plants to encourage the bees.
- Royal beekeeper, Catherine Princess of Wales. Being a long-standing tradition that Queens keep bees, Queen Elizabeth, Camilla and Catherine all followed that tradition. When the mistress of the bees dies, a black ribbon is tied on the hive to show her passing.
- Known as 'Queen Bee' pop star Beyoncé is also a beekeeper. Her introduction to beekeeping was to find alternative remedies for her children with allergies.

Trudie's displays captured each beekeeper in a truly imaginative style. A memorable afternoon for our members.

We meet every fourth Thursday afternoon of the month in Cumnor village hall. **Call Karen on 07967 555750** if you would like to know more about our club.





Report from Cllr Lee Evans

Well, autumn is well and truly here and, alongside lovely things like harvest and autumnal colours, this time of year also comes with downsides - including worse weather. That's why I wanted to start this KBS News report by talking about drains.

In my view, drains and gullies in our area have not been cleaned out enough over the years, leading to flooding on the roads. That's why I was delighted when the County Council recently agreed to do a full clean of the drains. Lots of good work has been done, but several residents have got in touch to say that some drains have been missed. Rather than risk leaving these blocked, I'm currently going out across the area and

marking up drains that need urgent attention. If there are any blocked drains that you are aware of, please do let me know.

Alongside drains, another issue I'm working on is poor phone signal in KBS and nearby villages. I recently addressed a meeting of Oxfordshire County Council on plans to map mobile phone signals across the county, urging the Council to focus on concrete steps to improve coverage. I've also raised the issue with the Digital Infrastructure Team at County Hall and asked them to consider what could be done to improve things in our area. I'll report back on my progress.

You may have seen headlines recently about the County Council's plans for switching off some streetlights in Oxfordshire. Under the proposals, the local County Councillor will have to sign off on any plan to switch the lights off, so I wanted to be clear about my view on this. For the sake of public safety, I would not agree to the County Council switching off any streetlights in the Kingston & Stanford division. The only exceptions I would consider are if there is significant public demand for a change and the police were satisfied it would not pose a risk to public safety.

Finally, something I'm sure you have seen in the news: the Oxford Congestion Charge. Despite significant public opposition, the County Council is going ahead with a £5 per day charge to drive a car through six charge locations in Oxford. Personally, I'm opposed to it. I think it isn't necessary and will likely make issues of congestion on the Oxford ring road worse. I also think it's a barrier to people in our area travelling into Oxford – something which has already been made much too difficult by the problems with the Botley Road. Nevertheless, I'm afraid the Council leadership is determined to go ahead and the new charge will apply from 29th October.

One crumb of comfort is that we can apply for a permit with 25 day passes per year. (There are other permits with exemptions, too, including for people with blue badges). If you are likely to drive into Oxford via one of the charge points, it is worth getting a permit. Please do visit the Oxfordshire County Council website to find out more.

As ever, if there is anything I can do to help you in our area, please get in touch on **07724 601 096, lee.evans@oxfordshire.gov.uk** or at **facebook.com/LeeEvansOxfordshire**.

Village Walk and Talk



27th November (Thursday) at 10am • KBS Village Hall

For the Walk and Talk which took place on Thursday 25th September, a shorter route than usual was chosen to the south of Southmoor, where nevertheless there was plenty to see and observe before heading towards Rimes Lane and School Lane and returning to the Village Hall, where the walkers were anxious to support the KBS Café Macmillan Coffee Morning. The next Walk and Talk and the last for 2025 will take place on **Thursday 27th November at 10am from the KBS Village Hall**.



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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

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](tel:01865820422) or email: office@jbl.cambrianlt.org)



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Youth Matters

Hello! I hope that everyone had a lovely October and a great half-term. It's certainly looking very autumnal now! The leaves on the foliage around the village are slowly turning brown and falling off, which can be quite sad, but I see it as the plants getting ready to grow new ones in the spring next year. In this month's article, I thought I would talk about the science behind autumn and answer questions that might frequently come up about this season!

Why do we have seasons?

Whilst November signifies autumn in the Northern Hemisphere (where the UK is), it is late spring in the Southern Hemisphere. It seems very odd that whilst we are inside, drinking hot chocolate and wrapping up warm because of the weather, countries such as Australia are coming into their summertime! This is because of the way the Earth tilts on its axis. The Earth is tilted ever so slightly and does not rotate completely straight. At the moment, our side of the Earth is beginning to tilt away from the Sun and countries on the other side of the world are beginning to tilt towards it – this is why seasons happen and it gets warmer and colder.

Why are leaves changing colour?

Leaves have a special part called chlorophyll, this makes the leaves green. Chlorophyll helps with photosynthesis – this is when plants make their own food. In autumn, chlorophyll breaks down and the leaf begins to turn brown!

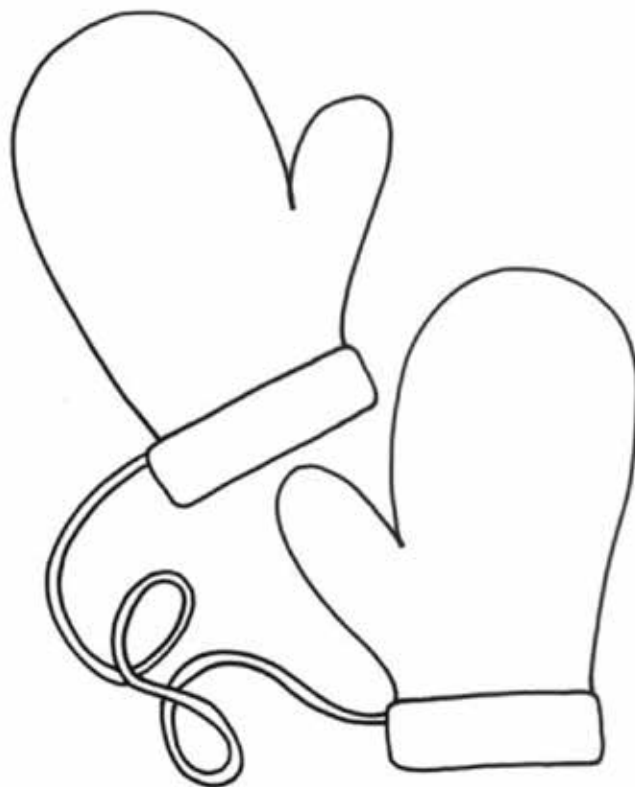
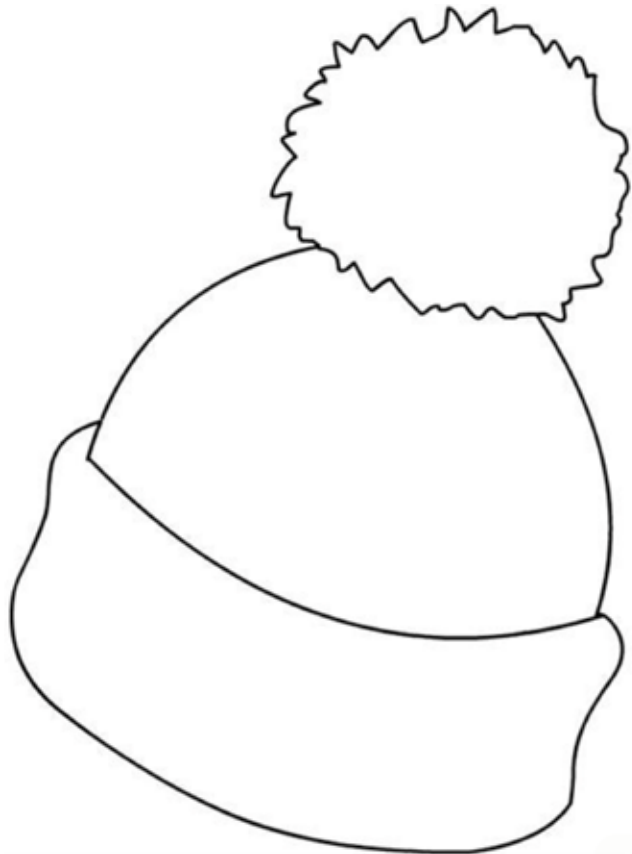
Why do animals hibernate?

Animals hibernate because when it begins to get cold and food is hard to find, it is important to save energy. Animals sleep for long periods of time throughout autumn and winter so that they don't have to waste energy looking for food; the animals then wake up when winter is over and food is plentiful.

I hope everyone has a wonderful November and a lovely end to autumn! **Darcey**

Puzzle of the Month

Design your own autumn hat and gloves set!



Don't forget our 'Out & About with the KBS News' feature.
Send pics to editorkbsnews@gmail.com



Magnus Macfarlane

Appreciating Oxford

It's not until you go away from Oxford to other cities in the UK, or across the world, that it begins to come home to one just how rich and diverse the city of Oxford is, on every level. It's right here on our doorstep. Which itself is part of the problem - we can always go and visit it at some time in the future. Here are your opportunities.

Can you complete the list against each of the following questions? As a guide I have given you a target for each question.

- How many museums are there? – include the oldest public museum in the world (8)
- How many Art galleries? Don't forget the more modern one (3)
- How many public theatres? Including one named after a married couple who were both phenomenal actors (3)
- How many cinemas? (2)
- How many concert halls? (2)
- How many vantage points are there where you can get a view across Oxford? Include bars! (7)
- How many shopping centres and weekly markets? (3)
- How many castles are there in Oxford (You can exclude pubs!) (1)
- How many gardens, parks and meadows? (3)

If you start working on this list now by the time you are finished, I can promise you that there will be more!

If you visited one venue a year – many of my readers would consider living to that age to be an achievement all on its own! How about one a month? It would take you over two and a half years! At one a week you could achieve it in just under 8 months.

The list you've put together does not cover the 43 colleges; the 71-plus churches and religious institutions; the Bodleian Library; Blackwells and the Union. Add to this calendared and pop-up events such as lectures, talks, concerts, theatre, recitals, carol services, markets and displays, runs and University shenanigans. Finally, add walking tours covering the widest range of subjects which can be found on the Oxford Guild of Tour Guides. And it's all in the centre of Oxford on your doorstep. You have the power and opportunity to go anywhere you desire.

The answers to the questions are:

Museums: (1) Ashmolean (the oldest public museum in the world), (2) Pitt Rivers, (3) Natural History Museum, (4) Museum of the History of Science, (5) Bates Music Museum, (6) MOX (Museum of Oxford), (7) Story Museum, (8) Oxford Illusion Museum (this is the latest one)

Art galleries: (1) Christ Church, (2) Ashmolean, (3) MOMA

Theatres: (1) The Playhouse, (2) New Theatre, (3) Burton Taylor (not the Sheldonian Theatre as it is a graduation hall & concert hall).

Cinemas: (1) Curzon, (2) Oxford cinema and café. (and a little further to the Phoenix; Vue and Ultimate)

Concert halls: (1) Hollywell Music rooms, (2) Sheldonian. You could add the Jacqueline Du Pré Music Building and several college chapels.

Vantage points: (1) Westgate, (2) Saint Mary the Virgin church, (3) Carfax Tower, (4) the Varsity Club, (5) The Store, (6) Ashmolean, (7) Saint Michael at the Northgate.

Shopping centres and markets: (1) Westgate, (2) Covered Market, (2) Gloucester Green.

Castles: (1) Oxford Castle.

Gardens, parks and meadows: (1) Botanic Gardens, (2) University Parks, (3) Christ Church meadows (a little further to Port Meadow and Iffley Meadow).



Hollywell music room



View from Carfax Tower

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