

KBS NEWS

The Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Village News

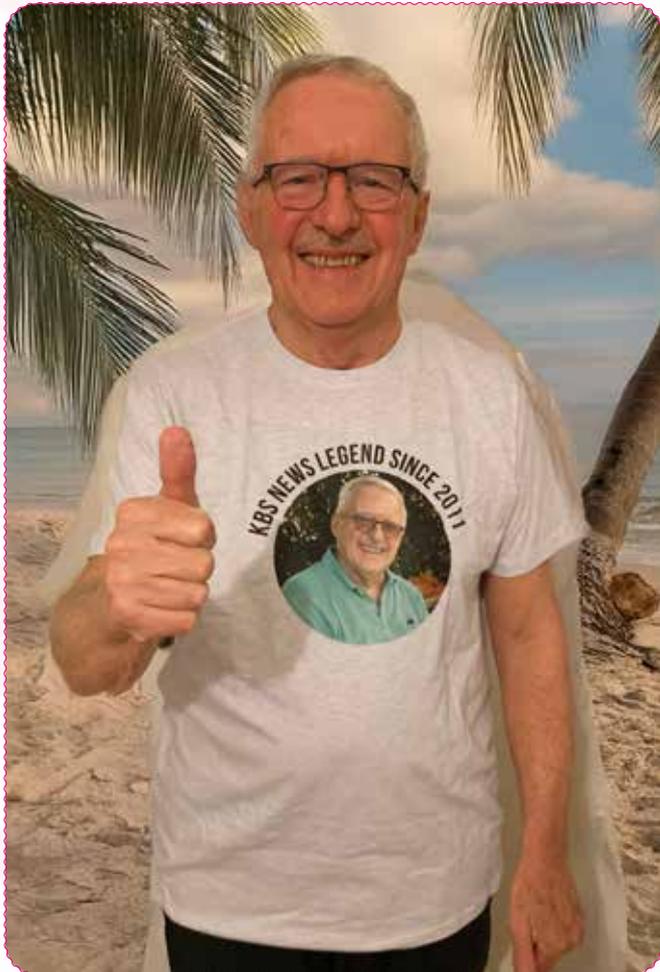
DELIVERED MONTHLY TO EVERY HOUSE
IN THE VILLAGE

Volume 53

Number 1

February 2026

Happy Retirement, Roy!



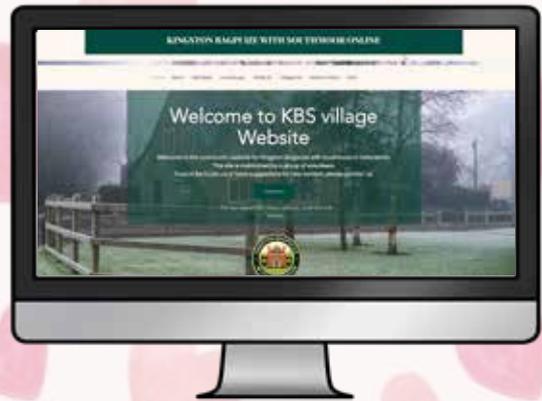
We bid a fond farewell to Roy Wolfe, who is retiring from the KBS News after 14 years. As Roy swaps deadlines for palm trees, we thank him for his years of dedication and wish him all the best—especially the luxury of never again being asked, “Could you just have a quick look at this?”



The 27th of February is International Polar Bear Day. Hidden somewhere inside the News is a picture of the polar bear. Can you find it?

New Village Website Is Officially Live!

KBSONLINE.ORG



Village Lunch Monday 2nd March 2026

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 19th February**, Hazel Brennan (821358), or sign up with Stephen Haywood at the KBS Café. We look forward to hearing from you!

We'd be grateful if you'd let us know if having booked you are unable to attend to save wasting food.

INSIDE THIS MONTH

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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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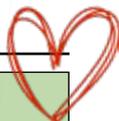
USEFUL CONTACTS				
NEED MEDICAL HELP BUT NOT AN EMERGENCY/ WANT TO SPEAK TO A DOCTOR CALL 111 (24hours)				
ALWAYS RING 999 IN AN EMERGENCY				
GP SURGERIES		A & E HOSPITALS	MINOR INJURY HOSPITALS	
The White Horse Medical Practice Faringdon SN7 7YU 01367 242388 District Nurse / Health visitor 01367 240087	Marcham Road Family Health centre Abingdon, OX14 1BT 01235 522 602	Great Western Hospital Swindon 01793 604020 John Radcliffe Hospital Oxford 01865 741166	Abingdon Hospital Marcham Rd, Abingdon OX14 1AG 01865 904346	Witney Hospital Welch Way, Witney, OX28 6JJ 01865 903841
Chemists Faringdon Pharmacy 01367 244632 Wootton Pharmacy 01865 736136	District Council Vale of White Horse 01235 422422 Emergency Helpline 01235 422420	VETS		POLICE
		Elms Veterinary 30 Gloucester St Faringdon, SN7 7HY 01367 242416	Abivale Veterinary The Vineyard, Abingdon, OX14 3NR 01235 524777	Non Emergency Call 101 Crimestoppers 24hr 0800 783 0137
24hr Gas Emergency 0800 111 999		24hr Electricity Emergencies Call 105		24hr Thames Water Emergency 0800 316 9800
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Samaritans - www.samaritans.org , 116 123			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

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St John the Baptist Parish Church, Kingston Bagpuize Services. – See full details on the Church Page				5
Monday	2 nd	6.30pm	Parish Council Monthly Meeting - Swallow Room, KBS Village Hall	8
Tuesday	3 rd	7.15pm	KBS Gardening Club, Chris Day on Successful Planting	19
Friday	6 th	7.00pm	Circle Dancing, KBS Village Hall	29
Tuesday	10 th	7.30pm	Apple Blossoms WI, John Place on Basic, Better, Best - where WI meets Antique Roadshow, KBS Village Hall	23
Friday	13 th	7.00pm	Film & Music Night. "Saving Grace", KBS Village Hall	14
Sunday	15th	4.00pm	Final Copy Date for KBS News March edition	2
Wednesday	18 th	7.00pm	Join the start of Lent, St John Baptist Church	5
Thursday	19 th	7.00pm	Longworth History Society, Trevor Jackson's "RAF Brize Norton", KBS VH	19
Thursday	26 th	10.00am	Village Walk and Talk starting at KBS Village Hall	--
Thursday	26 th	12.00pm	Oxford Flower Club, Cumnor Village Hall	25
March				Page
Monday	2 nd	12.30pm	Village Lunch at KBS Village Hall	1
Monday	2 nd	6.30pm	Parish Council Monthly Meeting - Swallow Room, KBS Village Hall	8

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



Do you have something to say?
Send your thoughts to
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The KBS News is delivered to every house in the village.
Extra copies are available from the
One Stop shop, Hinds Head and Southmoor Co-ops.



FEBRUARY BIN COLLECTION

Wed 4th	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items	 +  + 
Wed 11th	Food Bin / Green Bin Collection/Brown Bin + Textiles & Batteries in a separate bag on top of the Bin	 +  +  + 
Wed 18th	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items	 +  + 
Wed 25th	Food Bin / Green Bin Collection/Brown Bin + Textiles & Batteries in a separate bag on top of the Bin	 +  +  + 



PLEASE pick up after your dog and use the bins provided!

Failing to clear up after your dog may result in a fine of up to £1000!



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.

**Do you have something to say?
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**Tamsyn Lay MSc (Hons) MChiro MMCA
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Services in February at St. John the Baptist

stjb.churchinsight.com



Sunday 1st	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Worship
Sunday 8th	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion All-Age Service
Sunday 15th	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Worship
Wednesday 18th Ash Wednesday	7.00pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Family Communion



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

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

- The church will now be open for private prayer every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 9am to 5pm/dusk, whichever is the earlier.
- Wednesday 18th Ash Wednesday 7pm come and join us for the start of Lent.
- Sunday 1st, 15th, 22nd **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 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
info@fyfieldchapel.org.uk
01865 769473

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH OF BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON & BUCKLAND

A Parish in the North Downs Pastoral Area
www.blessedhugh.org.uk

Parish Priest: Revd Claro Conde,
The Presbytery, 1 Coxwell Road, Faringdon SN7 7EB.
Tel: 01367 358895 Email: cconde@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sunday Mass 10.00 am



St John the Baptist Churchyard Needs You

To keep the Churchyard looking good we need people to help mow the grass. This is done every other week during the spring and summer by teams of ideally 4 people.

We are very grateful to those who help already, but more helpers are needed and will be appreciated. All cutting and safety equipment is provided. If you are interested in joining our friendly group of cutters please contact Hazel hb.brennan@hotmail.com. Many thanks!



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





VILLAGE VOICES

Send your views to editorkbsnews@gmail.com

Village Fête - SAVE THE DATE!

If you need to take your mind off long nights and dreary weather, why not add this year's KBS Summer Fête to your calendars?

**Saturday 27th June
1pm - 4pm**

**The Gardens of Kingston Bagpuize House
by kind permission of Mrs Virginia Grant**

We've already sent stall-booking invitations to the local groups and businesses on our mailing list. If you haven't received this information and would like to book a stall, or work for an organisation that would be willing to sponsor the event or donate a prize to the Raffle / Auction of Promises, please email kbsfete@gmail.com.



Rob and Linda keeping warm while visiting the 5th station on Mount Fuji, Japan.

Kingston Bagpuize Post Office

On the 10th October I contacted Post Office Complaints to bemoan the fact that I and many other local residents could not rely on the Kingston Bagpuize Post Office being open. I had been to the post office two days running to collect a parcel but the Post Office was closed on both days. I was aware that this was an ongoing concern for many local people.

After several 'holding' emails I finally received another on the 25th November including the following paragraph:

How we want to make it better

We have delivered this feedback to the Area Manager so that we can review this and take the appropriate next steps to ensure this doesn't happen again. Thanks to your feedback, the Area Manager has the opportunity to work with the branch and ensure the correct processes are followed in order to improve customer experiences.

And another on the 4th December saying:

Please be assured that any changes processed within the branch are carried out with the utmost care and in full accordance with our established policies and procedures. Our team is committed to maintaining accurate, compliant and high-quality service at all times, regardless of internal transitions.

On 15th January I again visited the Post Office to send a parcel, only to find that it was closed, due to unforeseen circumstances.

I find the Coop staff who have been on duty in the store on all occasions helpful and apologetic, but it appears they have been left to take 'the flak'. This is so unfair and those really responsible are far away from Kingston Bagpuize.

If you would like to register your discontent, annoyance or any other feelings the contacts are by email: CustomerCare@postoffice.co.uk. There is an online form to make a complaint at: <https://www.postoffice.co.uk/contact-us/in-branch-customer-experience>. Of course there is no telephone contact available.

Roy Wolfe



**Do you have something to say?
Send your thoughts to
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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



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**



Nonagenarians - Let's celebrate together!

This year, those born in 1936 will be 90. If anyone living in the village who was born in 1936 would like to meet up for a joint celebration in the summer it would be great. Please contact Eddie Edney on 01865 820460 if this would be of interest.



Thank You

A huge thank you to everyone who so generously donated food for the Abingdon Foodbank and toys for the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal. Everything was gratefully received and will have helped to improve Christmas for many families and children locally.

Tip of the Month



If you are seeking encouragement to do more exercise and/or help the environment by using the car less, then the BetterPoints Oxfordshire App could be for you. I came across this site in an early January email from Oxfordshire County Council "YourOxfordshire" and saw an offer to "Step outside, feel better and win prizes!" Once registered you start earning rewards straight away for walking, wheeling, cycling, public transport and other healthy and green activities. You can spend your rewards at participating local businesses, with high street brands, or donate them to charity. To find out more, here's the QR Code. NB: To turn the device on for recording a walk, simply turn on Tracking using the icon at the top right hand side of the screen.

If you have spotted the new Climate & Environment Notice Board at the recreation ground near Petypher House, you will have seen details of the App there too as extra points were on offer between 12th and 31st January. If you have any climate or environment-related information/photos you would like to share through the notice board, do feel free to email them to us at kbsenvironmentgroup@gmail.com





Parish Council Website: kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk **Parish Clerk email:** clerk@kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk
Meeting minutes and appendices are available online at kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings/ and minutes are displayed at the noticeboards at the Witney Road Co-op and Faringdon Road (The Paddock).

Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Parish Council met on 12 January at the Village Hall, with councillors, county and district representatives, and members of the public in attendance. Reports from District Councillor Jill Rayner and County Councillor Lee Evans covered a range of strategic and local issues, including progress on the Joint Local Plan, proposed local government reorganisation, changes to planning powers and fees, and the Thames Water reservoir consultation. Local highways matters were also discussed, with updates on pothole repairs, pavement works, A420 resurfacing, and upcoming consultations on school-area parking and waste recycling centre access.

Planning was a significant focus of the meeting. Councillors considered several applications, including amendments to the proposed Willowfields Energy Park. While welcoming reductions in the scale of the development and improved landscaping proposals, the council maintained concerns around flood risk near the River Ock and the visual impact on nearby communities. Other applications, including household extensions and modifications linked to development land east of Kingston Bagpuize, were either supported or deferred for further discussion.

The council also agreed its budget and precept for 2026–27. The proposed precept of £128,000 represents an increase of £1,000 on the previous year, equating to less than 10p per annum for a Band D property. Budget discussions included future provision for youth services, maintenance projects, and staffing costs. Councillors also approved a request to apply for a parish boundary change to include the Ferrers Green development site.

Additional decisions included the approval of new IT and data protection policies, updates on the Neighbourhood Development Plan as it moves towards formal consultation, and acceptance of quotes for safety and maintenance works at the Jubilee Pavilion. The meeting concluded with agreement on revised pay scales for the clerk and outdoor officer from April 2026. The next Parish Council meetings will take place on 2 February and 2 March.

KBS Parish Council will be seeking quotes for its contracts for litter picking and emptying of litter and dog bins, as well as its cleaning contract for bus shelters and play equipment. For full information please contact the parish clerk at clerk@kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk or ring 07908 472827, or see details on the parish council website at: <https://kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk/contracts-for-renewal/>.
Deadline for receipt of quotes will be 24 February with contracts to start 1 April 2026.



Pictures around the Village by Tania Delohery Duffy



KBS Neighbourhood Development Plan - **HAVE YOUR SAY!**

Your Neighbourhood Development Plan application is progressing and the pre-submission Regulation 14 Consultation (minimum of 6 weeks) for the KBS NDP begins in early February.

This is your LAST CHANCE TO COMMENT before the Plan is submitted to the Vale.

The draft plan and relevant appendices will be posted on the Parish Council Website www.kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk with links on local social media pages and a hard copy available by contacting the Parish Clerk. We strongly encourage everyone to read and comment.

After the consultation period all comments will be reviewed by the KBS NDP Steering Group and a Consultation Statement will be produced detailing all the comments made and setting out any amendments to the draft plan. The proposed NDP Plan will then be submitted to VWHDC for the remaining stages of the application process.

Free Home Upgrades to beat the chill

Help Oxfordshire residents stay warm and well this winter

With the recent cold snap, it's more important than ever that people can keep their homes warm and energy costs manageable. We've been awarded additional government funding to help low-income households make their homes more energy efficient through the Warm Homes Local Grant: <https://oxfordshire.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=feb3ea90bfa82dcb90c21a3e7&id=a7de7fd5c1&e=ef5e571620>

This scheme provides fully funded upgrades such as insulation, solar panels, and heat pumps for eligible homeowners and private tenants.

Oxfordshire residents could qualify if:

- Their household income is under £36,000, OR
- They receive means-tested benefits, AND
- Their home has an EPC rating of D, E, F or G

Please note: Privately rented properties only qualify with an EPC of D or E rating unless landlords have the relevant exemptions in place.

Why retrofit?

These improvements will make homes warmer, reduce energy bills, and help households avoid the hardship of high heating costs. By retrofitting properties, we're improving comfort and affordability while supporting Oxfordshire's move toward a greener, low-carbon future.



Funding must be allocated before 1 April 2026. Early applications are essential so upgrades can be approved and delivered on time.



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





KBS Badminton Club



Every Monday (6:15-7:30pm), Wednesday (6.30-8pm/8-9pm) and Saturday (9.00 - 10.30am) • Southmoor Village Hall

If you're looking for a fun way to stay active through the darker winter months, badminton at Southmoor Village Hall might be just the thing. It's sociable, energetic and far more fun than staring at a treadmill!

The club runs on a non-profit basis so costs are very reasonable, and the first couple of sessions are free so you can see if it's for you. As there's only one court, numbers are limited to make sure everyone gets enough game time, so please do get in touch before coming along. Current sessions are as follows -

Beginners / Returners

Wednesday evenings | 8.00 – 9.00pm

A friendly session with no formal coaching, just experienced players helping newcomers learn the ropes. Currently full – waiting list available. Contact Scott - spj74@outlook.com

Improvers

Wednesday evenings | 6.30 – 8.00pm

A gentler pace but still competitive, ideal for those building confidence and consistency. Currently full – waiting list available. Contact Jenny - jenny.frame@live.co.uk



Advanced Improvers and above

Saturday mornings | 9.00 – 10.30am & Monday evenings | 6.15 – 7.30pm

Friendly but competitive games. Players should know the rules, be able to score and be happy to move around the court.

Spaces currently available for both sessions. Contact Alan - alan1198@btinternet.com

Finally, I just wanted to say a huge thank you to Sharon for everything she's done for the badminton club over the years. It's an incredible achievement to have built it from scratch into such a thriving, friendly community... Hopefully we will see you back on the courts again soon.



Wednesday night members enjoying a Christmas meal at The Greyhound

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Longworth & District History Society



19th February (Thursday) at 7pm
• Trevor Jackson "R.A.F. Brize Norton"
• Southmoor Village Hall

For our February meeting we have Trevor Jackson coming to tell us all about R.A.F. Brize Norton. Trevor served in the Royal Air Force, spending 17 years in the ranks rising to Sergeant, followed by a further 12 years as a Commissioned Officer, graduating in 1993 from the Royal Air Force College Cranwell. He served overseas in various countries.

To hear more, do come to our meeting in Southmoor Village Hall, 7.00pm, on Thursday 19th February.

We will have a brief AGM before Trevor's talk, so please don't be shy if you would like to join the committee!!

The bar will be open during the evening. All welcome. Members free and visitors £4. Please contact Pam Woodward (01865 820500).



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Southmoor & Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club



3rd February (Tuesday) at 7:30pm • Chris Day 'Successional Planting' • Southmoor Village Hall

It's that time of year when we're lucky if we can get out in the garden in between the cold days and the wet days... However, it's a great time to look ahead and think about what we might want to grow later in the year.

Our next talk on Tuesday 3rd February fits the bill perfectly! The entertaining Chris Day will be joining us for a talk called 'Successional Planting'. This often refers to growing produce to ensure you have a steady supply of salad and veg rather than a massive glut but, in this case, Chris is also going to apply it to colour in the garden. So, we're hoping for tips on what to grow to ensure our gardens look good for as long as possible. As usual, the talk is at Southmoor Village Hall at 7.30pm (doors open 7.15pm). It's free for members or £4 as a visitor. We provide complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits after the talk and there'll also be a raffle.

We've got an interesting and varied programme in place for the rest of 2026. Check out www.skbgardeningclub.org.uk for more details of our talks and social events. Membership is open to anyone who enjoys gardening and likes a bargain - it only costs £15 for the whole year. This gives you free entry to all of our talks during the year, invitations to member's open gardens and free entry (*) into RHS gardens (*conditions apply). You can just turn up to a meeting and join on the spot. For more information, email skbgardeningclub@gmail.com or call Sharon on 01865 820399. Sharon Cooper (Chair)



Do you have something to say?
Send your thoughts to
editorkbsnews@gmail.com



Recipe of the month

Creamy Baked Gnocchi with Squash & Spinach

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/creamy-baked-gnocchi-with-squash-spinach>

Prepare: 15min **Cook:** 15min **Serve:** 2-3

Ingredients

- 600g butternut squash - peeled, deseeded and cut into small chunks (450g prepared weight)
- 1 tbsp olive oil, plus a drizzle (for optional air-frying)
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 160g baby leaf spinach
- 250g mascarpone
- grating of nutmeg
- 30g parmesan or vegetarian alternative, grated
- 500g gnocchi
- 3 tbsp fresh or dried breadcrumbs

Directions

1. Put the squash in a heatproof bowl with a splash of water and pinch of seasoning, then cover and microwave on high for 5 mins. Or, toss the squash in a drizzle of oil and some seasoning, and cook for 12 mins at 200C in an air fryer until soft and caramelised. It can also be roasted in the oven for 25 mins.
2. Meanwhile, heat 2 tsp of the oil in a large ovenproof frying pan over a medium heat and fry the garlic for 30 seconds until sizzling but not coloured. Add the spinach, season and cook until wilted.
3. When the squash is tender, roughly mash half of it using a fork. Stir the mashed squash and the mascarpone into the spinach, then add 150ml water and stir until you have a smooth, creamy sauce. Grate in a generous amount of nutmeg and add half the parmesan. Gently stir in the gnocchi and squash chunks to coat in the sauce. Simmer for 1-2 mins until everything is heated through, adding a splash of water if the sauce is very thick. Scatter over the breadcrumbs and remaining parmesan.
4. Heat the grill to medium-high, then slide the gnocchi under for a few minutes until golden and bubbling at the edges.



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The Greyhound Inn is a gastro pub with rooms. It is a 19 min cross country car drive from KBS and has parking at the side of the pub along with free street parking.



We had booked a table for lunch via their website. On arrival we were welcomed and shown to our table. The dining tables are designed to be in four different areas so if you want a bit more privacy you can choose the more secluded section, or if you have a bigger group and want to be in a livelier spot, you can choose to be near the bar area. We wanted the former so asked to move to a quieter area. That was all fine and worked well. It was good to have the option. I suggest that you note any seating request at the time of booking. The two more private areas could also be used for private groups. There are tables outside too – perfectly beautiful setting for fairer weather.

The staff throughout our time there were super friendly and helpful. That makes such a difference! The ambience was cosy and welcoming.

We were presented with a full menu declaring The Greyhound's two AA ROSETTES for culinary excellence; and a "lunch for less" menu which is available each Monday - Friday lunchtime. The drinks menu consisted of real ale, cocktails, soft drinks and a comprehensive wine list.

The A La Carte menu would definitely suit a special meal. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic aperitifs; nibbles; starters – including vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options; classic pub main courses and some more elegant choices, averaging £26 each; side dishes; mouth -watering desserts costing c £10 each; and finally a cheese selection with the option of port. I certainly need to concoct a special occasion! Back down to earth, I chose a starter and main from the "lunch for less" menu (£27) and my friend chose a main course and cheese plate.

The pea and mint soup with homemade sourdough bread were delicious. We both chose the salmon which was beautifully cooked and tasty. The personal cheeseboard with crackers, chutney and Barkham Blue cheese looked delightful and plentiful and was enjoyed by my friend. My coffee was good too.



I definitely will plan another few visits to this Greyhound Inn.
Wilrich, two KBS foodies

PS: We hope you are enjoying the restaurant reviews. Feedback is welcome via the KBS News. Please let us know of any other venues/locations you would like us to visit.



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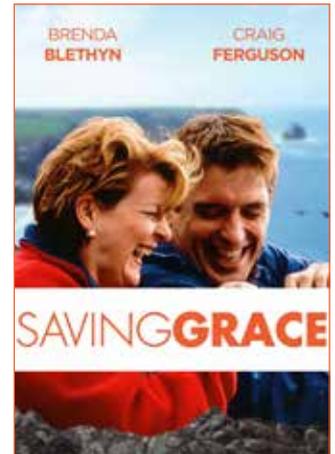


KBS Film and Music Night

13th February (Friday) at 7pm • 'Saving Grace' • Church Room

Our next Film Night will be on Friday 13th February in the Church Room when we will be showing Saving Grace, a comedy to cheer up the winter evenings.

Brenda Blethyn stars as Grace Trevethen, whose late husband jumped out of a plane without a parachute. Grace has been left with a manor on the Cornish Coast - and the massive, suffocating mountain of debt her husband had been secretly amassing. Now, with creditors on her heels, Grace is faced with the prospect of losing everything. Desperate times call for desperate measures, so when Grace is asked to tend an ailing, if illicit, plant she gets an outrageous idea. Join us to find out more...



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



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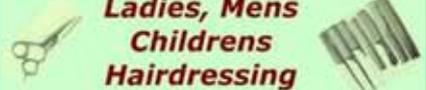
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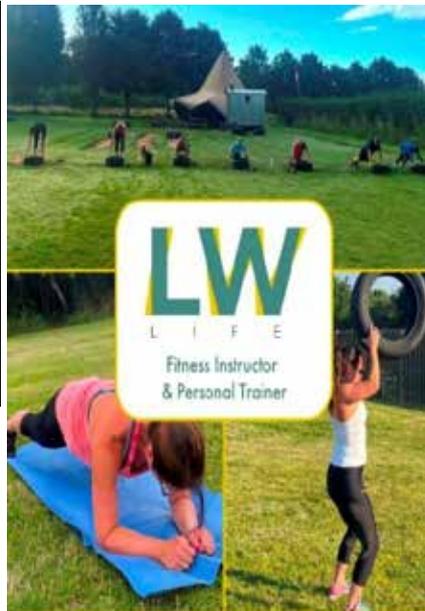
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News from the Bowls Club

Now the holiday season is gone and bowling has resumed. Since the start of the year we have played 2 short mat league matches, with mixed results.

We played in two friendly short mat matches, one against Oxford City & County at their facility on Horseferry Road, Summertown. This was a new experience to many of our players, who have never played on an indoor bowling surface. This new experience was reflected in Oxford City & County only dropping one ring of the six played. This result did not spoil the great afternoon enjoyed by all the bowlers.

Kingston Bagpuize & Southmoor Bowls Club								
League Positions								
	Position	Played	Won	Drawn	Shots For	Shots Against	Shots Difference	Points
Short Mat Afternoon league	7	12	4	1	228	247	-19	43



On the 9th of January a group of intrepid short mat bowlers braved the weather to head over to Faringdon to play for the Frances Rothwell Memorial Trophy. It was a very enjoyable evening of bowls followed by excellent refreshments. The return match has been set for the 27th of March, when the keepers of the trophy will be determined.

Bowling is a growing sport, and a great opportunity for all ages to participate from juniors to pensioners. With a bit of coaching and practice, you'll be surprised how quickly you are playing to a good standard.

We are a thriving and very friendly lawn bowls club located 300 metres down the Oxford Road next door to the Millennium Green, with plenty of parking.

As we have an all-weather floodlit green, we are able to play all year round. We participate in numerous local leagues and have a number of members who play at a county level, one of whom is one of our junior members. We have many club members' competitions played throughout the year and have roll-up sessions twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. During the Winter months we also have members playing in an indoor short mat league.



In addition to bowls, we have an active social programme throughout the year for members, held at the clubhouse where we have a bar offering a wide range of alcoholic and soft drinks. As we will be celebrating our 30th anniversary in 2026, we are planning a wide range of events both on and off the green.

If you would like to join us and would like to try your hand at bowls, please feel free to contact our Hon Secretary on kbsbcsecretary@outlook.com where we can arrange for you to come and try your hand at bowls with one of our members, or simply join in at one of our Roll-up sessions. All you need is a pair of trainers and we will provide the bowls.

We are also able to provide a fun away day for local businesses and societies, providing a fun introduction to bowls including a buffet or BBQ. We will be holding an Open Day in May 2026 where we welcome all those wanting to try their hand at bowls and learn what the club has to offer.

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!!*



KBS Nature

Happy New Year! I was lucky to spend Christmas and New Year in the USA. So this month's nature column includes some observations from Escambia County, West Florida.

This particular region is known as the Emerald Coast and sits on the Gulf of Mexico (although some road signs did suggest this was the Gulf of America...). As the name suggests, the sea is a sensational crystal clear green and the beaches pristine white. There is an abundance of wildlife in this area and, although not seen on this particular visit, some rather large sharks just off the shoreline! On a previous fishing trip our guide, Captain Kenny, suggested it would be wise not to hook the shark lurking above the artificial reef (we were definitely going to need a bigger boat!).

It's almost time for the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch 2026 (see RSPB Bird & Wildlife Conservation Charity for more details) but unfortunately I doubt I will be seeing the spectacular bright red Northern Cardinal bird here in the garden or indeed a Florida Scrub-Jay that is not dissimilar to our native Jay.

A particular delight for me was the daily sighting of the Osprey. On one occasion we saw it heading off with a fish held in the classic forward-facing position in its talons. At another time it swooped into the water in front of the house but failed to catch anything and went and sat two docks down to rethink its tactics.

But my favourite bird in this part of the world is the Pelican – in this instance the Brown Pelican (see photo). They cruise so effortlessly inches above the water but when they soar and dive crashing into the water they don't get many points for their performance! And their antics when scrummaging over fish spoils are less than sportsmanlike – a complete free for all. It is the wily pelican that stays away from the foray who usually ends up with some scraps coming his or her way.

And regular sightings of dolphins just metres from the dock never failed to be another source of delight. However, our friends' dog, Teddy, took against them and we believe he may have had a conspiracy theory that the dolphins were, in fact, actually submarines for the pesky squirrels. Well, it is the USA...

Next time – results of this year's RSPB BGB. And remember, 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



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Update from Charlie Maynard MP

A very happy new year to you all, I hope you had a restful Christmas break and that the return to work & school at the start of January has gone smoothly! At the time of writing, we're only a little over a week into January and it has been a jam packed first week back. This is what I have been up to.

I spoke in a debate on the future of Thames Water where I focussed on the need for the Government to hold Thames Water fully to account for its sewage spills which pollute our local rivers. They certainly should not be giving Thames Water a free pass on the fines they've racked up from the regulator, something the

company has had the nerve to ask for.

The company's environmental and financial positions are untenable and the only answer at this point is to take the company through a Special Administration process, and bring it out the other side as a mutual, owned and run in the interests of its customers and our environment, rather than its creditors.

I have also had a very productive meeting with the Rail Minister, Lord Hendy, discussing the railway project to re-link Carterton and Witney with Oxford. This would deliver huge benefits for our community, cutting journey times by 70%, with Oxford reachable in just 16 minutes from Witney and 22 minutes from Carterton. This would attract jobs and businesses into the area and enable us to better manage the huge amount of housing that the Labour government is forcing on West Oxfordshire. Lord Hendy was very encouraging and gave some very useful advice on next steps. This is something I will be continuing to work very hard on this year.

I spoke in two debates about what we can do to improve research and outcomes for the treatment of less survivable cancers which are responsible for 40% of all cancer deaths in the UK. I've been campaigning to get a national target in the forthcoming National Cancer Plan to double the survival rates for these cancers in the next decade and also for excised tumour tissue to be frozen as standard so it can be used for research purposes.

As always, please do get in touch with me and my team if there are things we can help with, or you would like to arrange to meet charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk.



KBS Tennis Club

Everyone at KBS Tennis club is looking forward to some great tennis in 2026. We have members going to see the Australian Open at the end of January (maybe they can bring back the sunshine!!).

Despite some tricky weather, we are managing to play some tennis, albeit in numerous layers which slows us down a bit!

Between Christmas and New Year we enjoyed a social tournament with chocolate and mince pies fuelling us through - all the healthy options!

If you are considering returning to tennis, we would love to see you. We offer numerous social sessions, as well as competitive teams in both mens' and ladies' leagues. We also participate in some mixed matches.



Recycle Your KBS News

We would like to assure all our readers that the paper used to print the KBS News is 100% recyclable. We know that some residents keep copies for months, and even years, but for those that don't the green bin is the place when you've read it and finished using it as your reference document for the month.

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Thames Valley Police's Website describes Anti-Social Behaviour at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/asb/asb/antisocial-behaviour/what-is-antisocial-behaviour. This website includes definitions of Anti-Social behaviour. If you observe or become aware of Anti-Social behaviour described in the above call 101.



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Apple Blossoms WI

 10th February (Tuesday) at 7:30pm • John Place with: Basic, Better, Best – where WI meets Antique Roadshow! • Southmoor Village Hall

“There are no strangers here; Only friends you haven’t yet met” (William Butler Yeats)

Good food, great company – our January get-together. We started the new WI year in the best possible way, enjoying our annual meal at the Black Horse in East Hanney. We were warmly hosted by our very own Jacqui, and her husband Ian, and it was lovely to spend the evening in such a welcoming setting that proved the Black Horse really is a stable choice for a great evening.

The food was excellent, the conversation flowed easily, and a quiz added a bit of fun and friendly competition - a recipe for a perfect start to the year! It was great to catch up, share a few laughs, and begin the year together on a high note.

If this sounds like something you’d enjoy, why not give the WI a try? We’re a friendly group with a varied and enjoyable programme planned for the year ahead.

Looking ahead – Basic, Better, Best!

Next month promises to be a lively and entertaining evening as we welcome John Place with: Basic, Better, Best – where WI meets Antique Roadshow! John will be bringing along a fascinating selection of everyday and not-so-everyday items, and the challenge is ours: can we guess their value? Which is basic, which is better, and which turns out to be the best? Expect surprises, plenty of laughs, and maybe even a few “I had one of those!” moments along the way.

It’s a relaxed, interactive evening designed to get everyone involved, whether you’re a budding antiques expert or simply enjoy a good guess and a good story. As always, there’ll be warm WI company and lots of chat – so come along ready to join in and see how sharp your valuation skills are....basic, better, or best! Entrance cost £5 including refreshments (free for members). **Naomi & Jules. Apple Blossoms WI.** appleblossomswi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

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Report from Cllr Lee Evans

As you will probably know, the County Council has recently changed the way we use our tips. Firstly, we now need to book in advance; and secondly, we need to bring proof of address with us - or be charged £15 if we live outside of Oxfordshire. Personally, I think these new requirements have made it harder to use our tips and have increased the likelihood of fly-tipping in rural areas like ours - so I am totally opposed to these changes.

In the last Council meeting before Christmas, I asked about people who live in Oxfordshire but forget their proof of address and therefore get charged. I don't want to see a single Oxfordshire Council Tax payer hit with a fee simply for using the tip, so I suggested that if someone can subsequently provide proof of address they should be reimbursed any charges in full. I think that is reasonable, but the Council's political leadership refused to agree to it.

My next question was specifically about the tip in Stanford in the Vale. I explained that having staff at the entrance of the tip to check paperwork could easily lead to more queues at the site. Worse, those queues could end up spilling out onto the A417 and blocking the road. The Cabinet Member assured me this had all been taken into consideration. Well, by the time you are reading this we will know whether or not that is the case. I'll be keeping a very close eye on our tips and raising any issues directly with the Council.

More cheerily, I have some good news on our roads. If you have travelled along the A420 between Buckland and Hinton Waldrist recently, you will have noticed an increasing number of potholes. The Council is aware of them and I'm hoping that by the time you read this they will have been fixed. But on a road as busy as the A420, patching repairs only last so long. So I am glad that the Council has agreed to resurface this stretch of the road in the next financial year.

Thank you to everyone who got in touch about the condition of Draycott Road. When this was raised with me, I went out to take photos of the potholes and sent them to the Council's highways team. They then came out and did an urgent repair of the worst potholes. Next, I want to see this stretch of road resurfaced to prevent the potholes from coming back again. Unfortunately, as a Councillor, this isn't something I can just order to happen - if it was, I would do it! But I will be making the case within County Hall to get this section of road added to the list to be resurfaced - and I will continue to do everything I possibly can to improve the condition of local roads.

Finally, I want to make sure you can always find out what I'm doing to represent and improve our local area - so I've launched a website. You can visit www.LeeEvans.uk to find the latest updates from me and also sign up to my new monthly email newsletter. And as ever, if there is anything I can do to help please get in touch on lee.evans@oxfordshire.gov.uk, 07724 601 096 or via Facebook.com/LeeEvansOxfordshire.

New booking system at the Household Waste Recycling Centres

A new booking system which we are introducing at our Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) to make visits quicker and easier came into effect on 14th January 2026.

From Wednesday 14 January 2026 everyone will need to book a time slot (<http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/hwrcbooking>) to visit one of our HWRCs. People can book 30 minutes before their visit (subject to availability) or up to two weeks in advance.

To help Oxfordshire recycle even more we are also asking people to sort their recyclable items from their waste either before they arrive which will speed up their visit, or they can use the sorting area on site.

Please spread the word about the new booking system so that people who visit Oxfordshire's HWRCs will be aware of this change.

Here is a link to download any resources that you may like to use from the HWRC booking system folder on our communication portal: <https://oxfordshire.canto.global/v/communicationsportal>

From 14 January 2026

Book your visit to our Household Waste Recycling Centres

You can book up to **30 minutes*** before on the day or up to **two weeks** in advance.

*Subject to availability

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The graphic features a hand holding a smartphone displaying a booking form with sections for 'WHERE?' (Cherry location), 'WHAT?' (Type of waste), and 'WHEN?' (Date and time slot). The background is blue with white and pink text boxes.



Barbara Murrell Obituary

It is with great sadness that we learned that Barbara Murrell passed away on 10th December 2025, aged 82, after a lengthy illness with Parkinson's. She and her late husband Roy moved to Southmoor in 1977 with their children Joe, Debbie, Anita and Robert to The Bungalow behind the Waggon & Horses pub, and they were well known in the village and wider community, with Barbara having worked in the shop, at John Blandy school and other local companies. She had previously been a member of Longworth WI and Longworth History Society, and with Roy in the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust and Wantage & Grove Lions club. Barbara was a devoted mother, nana and great-nana. She leaves behind her loving family and countless friends, and will be fondly remembered for her kindness and support to all who knew her. Barbara's family would like to thank everyone who attended the funeral service and passed on their kind words and memories of Barbara.

Family of Barbara Murrell



Oxford Flower Club

 Every fourth Thursday at 12pm • Cumnor Village Hall



Members packed into the village hall for our last meeting before the start of the festive season. We were delighted to welcome back our guest demonstrator, Lorraine Saunders. Lorraine, a National Demonstrator and very talented florist, was entertaining as she chatted about her career, whilst demonstrating ideas of how we could decorate our homes for Christmas.

Hampers, table decorations, wreaths and containers brimming with the most beautiful displays produced gasps and applause from our members. Even more so by those who won the arrangements in the raffle. An enjoyable afternoon with a very talented florist.

Members enjoyed a Christmas lunch in December at Frilford Heath Golf club to round off the year.

Next year's programme has been organised with demonstrators, trips, tea afternoons and lunches. We welcome new members, no experience necessary, so call Karen on 07967 555750 for more information. We meet every fourth Thursday afternoon in Cumnor Village Hall.



Do you have anything to say?
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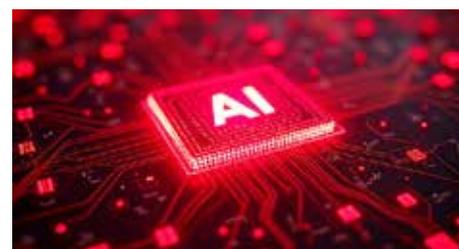
Youth Matters

Happy New Year KBS! I hope you all had a wonderful end to 2025 and are looking forward to the new opportunities and adventures 2026 will have to offer. I am writing my articles slightly differently this year, as I am now including a Monthly Mind Boggler - this will include a short description of a controversial topic in the world today and an opportunity to write your viewpoint below.

It has been wonderful to see some frost and snow (finally) appear all over the village, bringing that special wintry feel that can only be achieved when the cold weather settles. January is still officially winter and it certainly does feel like it. However, I find winter one of the best times to exercise as it is a great season to build endurance, resilience and strength for the summer. As a runner, the summer is the best season for achieving those personal bests and winter training is behind much of it. I have really noticed that our village has a strong sporting community, be it tennis, Parkrun, football, bowls, cricket or badminton, it is clear that we have many sporting successes amongst us!

MONTHLY MIND BOGGLER

On a different topic, I wanted to focus on the controversial subject of Artificial Intelligence, also known as AI. AI is one of the most astounding pieces of technology emerging from the depths of computer science, able to give answers, write essays, draw pictures and converse with you in a matter of seconds. This makes this technology one of the most useful inventions ever seen, but it has its setbacks.



There are a growing number of people using AI to create fake images, information and much more and claim it is real. Could AI also be using people's research and artwork and make it into its own for others to use? Do you think this is fair? What do you think about AI? Do you think it is a good idea?

I hope everyone has a prosperous start to the year and that 2026 will be the best year yet!
Happy January KBS! Darcey



Supporting Others to Reach Their Dream Weight

Grace 07807 707925

Becoming a Slimming World Consultant has been one of the most rewarding decisions of my life. What began as my own journey has grown into a role I truly love – supporting, encouraging and celebrating members as they work towards a healthier, happier life.

Each week, I welcome members into group, listen to their stories and help show that weight loss doesn't mean missing out. Slimming World is about real food, real life and real support, and seeing confidence grow and goals achieved is endlessly inspiring.

One of the most special parts of my journey has been supporting my own family. Last July, my husband joined Slimming World as a wedding anniversary gift and has since lost almost three stone. Watching his confidence and health improve reminds me every day just how powerful this plan can be.

Everyone's journey is different – there's no judgement, just encouragement and belief that small steps add up. Supporting people to reach their dream weight isn't just my job, it's my passion.



Group times:

- Preston Road Community Centre –
Mondays 5.30pm & 7.00pm
- Marcham Centre –
Tuesdays 5.30pm & 7.30pm

Magnus Macfarlane

The Festival of the Mallard

Most of the Colleges in Oxford have between 400 and 800 students. All Souls currently has 88 people in it and all of them are Fellows, except for the Current Warden. A Fellow is both a teacher and/or researcher and a member of a college's governing body - a bit like a board of directors. Some famous All Souls Fellows that you may be familiar with are Christopher Wren, William Gladstone, Lord Curzon and Lawrence of Arabia. Women have been eligible for Fellowships since 1979. Members are often referred to as the most intelligent people in the world. Yet despite their unquestionable intelligence, they still have their own quaint ceremonies. One of which is called the Festival of the Mallard.



All Souls College

On the day in question one of the Fellows is elected as Lord of the Mallard for the day. After a lavish feast of 14 courses held in the Codrington library (- oops now just called the library). The Lord is put in a chair; hoisted on the shoulders of their colleagues and paraded around the quadrangle followed by the rest of the Fellows dressed in full academic regalia, who hold flaming torches and chant both loudly and enthusiastically the



Mallard

song of the Mallard, which is quite long, in olde English and really quite rude in parts. In front of them walks a man with a long pole. At one end of the pole is a piece of string and at the end of the string dangles a wooden mallard. They used to use a real mallard for this but are not allowed to do that anymore.



All Souls duck on tie

You may be wondering why these highly intelligent people are doing this? Well, as the college was being built a mallard flew into the foundations; when the workmen saw it they decided they would have it for lunch, and they chased it around the foundations and said that it flew into the foundations, and they never saw it again. So these highly intelligent people, hundreds of years later, are still helping to look for a lost duck. This ceremony is held regularly on the 14th of January. Your opportunity to see this event may be somewhat hampered however because this ceremony is only held every 100 years and it is next due in the year 2101. Of course, someone in Oxford University may in the meantime discover the formula for everlasting life which would make seeing this a much easier prospect.



The Codrington Library



All Souls College Library



Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group



Diary dates for The Unfriend production - 23rd to 25th April



Happy New (ish) Year from KBDG!

November feels a long time ago, however we'd like to thank everybody who came to see our last production – Jack and the Beanstalk, kindly sponsored by **Newton**

The production was a great success with three full houses and great feedback from those who came to see it – some sample comments below:

'We had a wonderful time last night. Thanks to all the great cast and those behind the scenes!'

'Great fun tonight. Well done all!'

'Always a great show!'

'We loved it so much! A really good family night out in the run up to Christmas.'

'It was Moo-nificent, you all did 'udderly' well!'

'So many laughs and of course boos too!'

We also had a lovely, lengthy review from a member of Banbury Players which concluded:

'This was Mark Padbury's debut as a KBDG director, and he deployed flair and great familiarity for his beloved pantomime genre. All the elements for an old fashioned, child-friendly pantomime were in place. The audience was enthusiastic and appreciative, intoning familiar refrains and clapping along with the musical numbers. A non-Brit might be flummoxed by the whole thing, but that's the beauty of it. Don't try to understand or over analyse. Just be swept along with the joy, enthusiasm, comfort and downright mayhem of a traditional village Panto!'

Our lovely audiences helped us to raise £350 for our local Abingdon RDA (Riding for the Disabled) group, attached is a picture of our chair handing over the cheque.

Now our thoughts turn to April's production – The Unfriend by Stephen Moffatt (best known for his TV writing on Sherlock and Dr Who.) The Unfriend is a comedy that has recently successfully run in the West End. The plot centres on suburban couple Peter and Debbie, whose polite invitation to a stranger on holiday has hilarious consequences.

Diary dates: 23rd to 25th April – more information coming soon.



Kingston Bagpuize Village Art and Craft Club



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

The first meeting in December had members making a Christmas decoration. Thank you to Kate for not only providing the gear but also guiding us all through the making. Our last meeting before Christmas meant we had to have a little party. Everyone brought different nibbles and we chatted as we ate. Our last meeting of the year meant carrying on with our own projects and chatting as usual.

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 9th February. At present we have reached full capacity for the Church Hall but we are happy to put your name down on a waiting list to allow us to inform you when a place is available so we can meet new friends. **Jean Allsworth 07397530144**



Circle Dance – An Unknown Commodity

 Friday 6th February at 7pm • Southmoor Village Hall

I first came across Circle Dancing in 1986 in a small village in Brittany where the whole village came out on a Sunday for their Fest-noz, an enjoyable day of talking, eating and traditional dancing. Back in England, it took me a while to find this very simple form of dancing but luck was with me. I started dancing regularly in St Albans in the early 1990s and began teaching in 2006 when our teacher retired. I now enjoy running classes in Faringdon and Wantage after our move to Southmoor.

Circle Dance is a relaxing form of exercise for all ages which came to the UK thanks to Bernhard Wosien who was a German Ballet master, choreographer and professor of expression, education and dance. He introduced it at the Findhorn Community in Scotland sometime around the 1970s, and it has gradually and very quietly trickled down through England. Anyone of any sex, age or ability can circle dance. There is no audience, everyone is welcome whether you come on your own or with friends.

It draws on the rich and diverse traditional dances of countries from all around the world. There is also a growing repertoire of new dances to classical music as well as contemporary songs and music composed for Circle Dance. As you would expect from the name, dances are always done in a circle so no partner is needed but normally with everyone holding hands. Each dance is taught and walked through before putting the steps to music. Dances vary and can be energetic and lively or gentle and reflective. The style and mood of each session reflects the group and the interests of the teacher. For me, Circle Dance is as much about enjoyment and fun as getting the steps right. An opportunity to experience the connection and joy of dancing and laughing with others. We are lucky that there are quite a few Circle Dance teachers in Oxfordshire, why not explore and have a go in 2026!

Monthly Circle Dancing

at the KBS Village Hall



1st Friday of the month.

1st session - Friday, 6th February

Cost: £1 February session,

£5 each for following sessions

- ◆ Teas and coffees during the evening.
- ◆ No experience or partner needed.
- ◆ wear comfy shoes.
- ◆ Each dance is taught as we go along.

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News from Southmoor Baby and Toddler Group

📍 Every Friday 10-11:30am • Southmoor Village Hall

No session on Friday 13th due to private event

After a lovely Christmas we started the New Year with a small sale to raise funds for the group and are looking forward to a relaxing Spring; celebrating Mother's Day and Easter with themed arts and crafts and activities. We've been busy clearing out the cupboard making it easier for our volunteers to set-up and pack-down our weekly sessions which run most Fridays from 10am until 11.30am during term time in the Southmoor with Kingston Bagpuize Village Hall.



We've been experimenting with Baby/Toddler snacks over the last few months and think we've found a good balance of vegetables, fruits, carbohydrates and sugary snacks. We've been rotating options to try and encourage our little ones to try new healthier foods whilst also supporting those sensory issues and allergies. Snack Time and Circle Time are great ways of encouraging small children to fit into the kinds of routines they'll experience when they start school/pre-school or nursery. We've had a lot of fun singing at the end so please do stay after tidy-up time to join in! We provide a friendly and inclusive meeting place for parents, grandparents and carers including free Tea/Coffee and adult snacks and a safe, fun and warm environment for your babies and toddlers to play and socialize.

If you are new to the group your first session is free. Book your slot here: bookwhen.com/southmoorbabytoddlergroup If after that you are struggling to meet the weekly costs (three to five pounds depending on the ages/amount of children) please let us know: southmoorbabytoddlergroup@hotmail.co.uk

Regular members, please note that we won't be running our regular session Friday 13th February due to the Village Hall wanting to support a one-off Special Private Event at the Village Hall. You can keep updated with the latest news on our **Facebook Page**: <https://www.facebook.com/southmoorbabyandtoddlergroup>

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A reminder that spring is on the way!

Snowdrops near Kingston Bagpuize House, beautifully captured by Tania Delohery Duffy. These delicate blooms are among the first signs that the days are slowly lengthening, with brighter, warmer weather on the way.



Pictures around the Village by Tania Delohery Duffy

Editor's note: *If you have any photographs of the village, either past or present, that you'd like to see featured in KBS News, send them to editorkbsnews@gmail.com*



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Picture by Tania Delohery Duffy



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HELP!



Benefit Scam Alert

Oxfordshire Trading Standards have asked if we can pass on the message below.

Please be aware of cold callers claiming to work with the DWP or other similar agencies. The DWP or any legitimate agency will never charge for benefit advice or request payment before helping with claims.

If you receive a suspicious call, independently contact the DWP or the relevant agency using an official telephone number – do not use numbers given to you by the cold caller.

Wait at least 15 minutes before making the call as fraudsters may keep the line open and respond claiming to be the DWP or agency you are telephoning.

NEVER disclose any personal or sensitive information over the telephone.

Common methods of communication include telephone calls, text messages or emails that mimic official DWP correspondence.

Often these communications will:

Inform you that payments are at risk unless you provide details such as bank details or national insurance number. Offer to apply for benefits on your behalf for an upfront fee. Impersonate DWP staff to gain your trust and collect sensitive information.

If you suspect you have made a payment in response to such a scam call, immediately contact your bank by dialing 159; the operator will direct your call appropriately.

Anti-Social behaviour, Pavement Parking and Illegal use of Electric Scooters.



If you view a vehicle posing an immediate danger or an Electric Scooter being used, not on private land, you should call **Thames Valley Police on 999**.

If you view a vehicle which is not posing an immediate danger, but is being parked in an anti-social way, you may call **Thames Valley Police on 101** and report the situation.

Other Anti-Social matters

Thames Valley Police's Website describes Anti-Social Behaviour at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/asb/asb/antisocial-behaviour/what-is-antisocial-behaviour. This website includes definitions of Anti-Social behaviour. If you observe or become aware of Anti-Social behaviour described in the above call 101.



**Do you have something to say?
Send your thoughts to
editorkbsnews@gmail.com**



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KINGSTON BAGPUIZE WITH SOUTHMOOR VILLAGE HALL

- Available to hire for Parties, Meetings, Classes & Local Groups
- Reduced rates for Children's Parties
- Large Car Park

For further information email: southmoorvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk

Main Hall can seat up to 160 and has licensed facilities and kitchen

Two further meeting rooms, one with kitchen




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KBS NEWS ADVERT CHARGE RATES

SMALL BLOCK ADVERTS

6 cm wide x 5 cm high
For advertisers wanting to reach customers throughout the year.
Multiple blocks can be booked. Rates available on application.

RUN OF PAGE ADVERTS

Larger block adverts for advertisers wanting to reach customers having read their advert. Good for events being arranged in the near future.

BUSINESS ADVERTS (Rate Per Edition)			Local Not For Profit Organisations ADVERTS (Rate Per Edition)		
	B&W	Colour		B&W	Colour
Full A4 (Portrait) Back Page	Rates on application		Full A4 (Portrait) Back Page	£50	£82
Full A4 (Portrait) Inside Page	£160	£200	Full A4 (Portrait) Inside Page	£40	£65
Half A4 (Landscape) Inside Page	£80	£100	Half A4 (Landscape) Inside Page	£20	£35
Quarter A4 (Portrait) Inside Page	£40	£50	Quarter A4 (Portrait) Inside Page	£15	£27
Part Page smaller than Quarter A4 inside only	£35	£50	Part Page smaller than Quarter A4 inside only	£15	£25

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



Melanie Leggett
Bespoke Curtains | Roman Blinds | Cushions

tteggelm@gmail.com
01865 821139 / 07775 571683



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!!*

Pictures around the Village by Tania Delohery Duffy



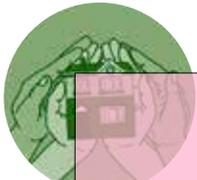
PLEASE pick up after your dog and use the bins provided!

Failing to clear up after your dog may result in a fine of up to £1000!



YOUTH MATTERS!

We are looking for a young people to write a few words on the Youth Aspect of the village.
editorkbsnews@gmail.com.



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



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Don't fo
Send
interest



**Do you have something to say? Why not get it off your chest and put it in the KBS News?
Send your thoughts to editorkbsnews@gmail.com**



Recycle Your KBS News

We would like to assure all our readers that the paper used to print the KBS News is 100% recyclable. We know that some residents keep copies for months, and even years, but for those that don't the green bin is the place when you've read it and finished using it as your reference document for the month.

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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Context Analysis

FEBRUARY BIN COLLECTION

Wed 4th	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items
Wed 11th	Food Bin / Green Bin Collection/Brown Bin + Textiles & Batteries in a separate bag on top of the Bin
Wed 18th	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items
Wed 25th	Food Bin / Green Bin Collection/Brown Bin + Textiles & Batteries in a separate bag on top of the Bin

