

KBS NEWS

The Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Village News

DELIVERED MONTHLY TO EVERY HOUSE IN
THE VILLAGE

WWW.KBSONLINE.ORG



Volume 53

Number 7

August 2026

Over 1000 People Attend The Village Fetê



The Village Fetê was a roaring success. See pages 6 & 7 for more.

Triple Birthday Celebration at the KBS Cafe



In June, the KBS Café celebrated three amazing chaps from the village with a special cake honouring their milestone birthdays. Gentlemen from left to right are: Ron Green who is going to be 90 in a few months, Eric Cripps who was 90 in May (He is a previous resident of the Village) and Ian Charlton who was 90 on 25th June

Happy birthday to you from the KBS News Team!

Fancy becoming the most informed person in the village?



We're looking for a volunteer to deliver our village newsletter to the Spring Hill area. No experience required—just a pair of comfortable shoes, a little spare time, and the ability to resist reading everyone else's copy before they do!

It's a great excuse for a walk, a chance to help your community, and you'll earn the gratitude of your neighbours (and maybe the occasional wave).

Interested? Get in touch—we'd love to have you on the team! Contact Jo at distributionkbsnews@gmail.com

Harvest Celebration on the Millennium Green, 30th August

All ages welcome.
Bring your own picnic for
afterwards.



INSIDE THIS MONTH

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**Copy date for next
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 August for the
 September edition**

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

For all advertising: Please contact the Advertising team at advertsksnews@gmail.com

All Non advertising copy must be sent to the Editorial Team at editorkbsnews@gmail.com.

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

Photographs:

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

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

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

USEFUL CONTACTS

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	
Citizens Advice www.citizensadvice.org.uk , 0808 278 7907			Mind www.mind.org.uk , 0800 169665	
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

August				Page
St John the Baptist Church, Kingston Bagpuize Services. – See full details on the Church Page				5
Monday	3 rd	6.30pm	Parish Council Monthly Meeting - Swallow Room, KBS Village Hall, only if there is urgent business	9
Saturday	8 th	10am	Produce & Flower Show, St. Nicholas Church, Fyfield	
Sunday	16th	4.00pm	Final Copy Date for KBS News August edition	2
Wednesday	19 th	10.30am	Bowls Club Coffee Morning	19
Saturday	22 nd	2pm	Village Show, KBS Village Hall	7

September				Page
Tuesday	1 st	7.30pm	SKB Gardening Club Talk by David Hinckley	7
Monday	7 th	6.30pm	Parish Council Monthly Meeting - Swallow Room, KBS Village Hall	9
Friday	11 th	7pm	Film & Music Night, St John Baptist Church Room	14

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	Beginners: Wed 8-9pm Intermediate: Wed 6.30-8pm Advanced: Sat 9-10.30am Mon 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 7.30pm	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)
Korean Karate Club	Wednesdays 5.05-5.35pm Little Ninjas (3.5-6yrs) 5.35-6.25pm Mixed ages (6yrs-adults)	KBS Art and Craft Friendship Club	Alternate Mondays 9.30am-12pm
Longworth & Dist History Society	3 rd Thursday every month at 7.00pm	In Longworth Village Hall	
Southmoor Baby & Toddlers	Fridays (term time only) 10-11.30am	IYENGAR Yoga (term time only)	Mondays 7-8.30pm Tuesdays 11.45am-1.15pm
Table Tennis (over 55's)	Tuesdays 11am-12pm (currently no vacancies) For info email: bobsouthmoor@hotmail.com	PILATES	Tuesdays 9.15am & 5.45pm Thursdays 9.15am & 6.30pm
Yoga Classes	Intermediates Tuesdays 6-7pm Seniors Wednesdays 10.30-11.15am Beginners Thursdays 6-7pm	ZUMBA	Thursdays 10.30am
Village Walk	2nd & last Thur of month 10am (not in Dec)	In Hinton Waldrist Village Hall	
		Cedar Community Club	Tuesdays & Wednesday 9.30am-3pm



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.

AUGUST BIN COLLECTION		
Wed 5th	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items	 +  + 
Wed 12th	Food Bin / Green Bin Collection/Brown Bin + Textiles & Batteries in a separate bag on top of the Bin	 +  +  + 
Wed 19th	Food Bin / Grey Bin & Small Electrical Items	 +  + 
Wed 26th	Food Bin / Green Bin Collection/Brown Bin + Textiles & Batteries in a separate bag on top of the Bin	 +  +  + 

Have you thought about advertising in KBS News?



Every issue lands directly in around 2,000 homes across the village, making it one of the most direct and cost-effective ways for local businesses, clubs, and organisations to reach their neighbours. Whether you're a small business wanting steady, year-round visibility with a small block advert, or you're promoting a one-off event with a larger half page ad, there's an option to suit every budget — with local not-for-profit organisations enjoying discounted rates. Best of all, every advert booked helps keep KBS News running and allows us to keep giving back to the village. If you'd like to know more contact adverts@kbsnews@gmail.com.



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



Don't forget our 'Out & About with the KBS News feature.

KBS NEWS ADVERT CHARGE RATES

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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)		
	B&W	Colour
Full A4 (Portrait) Back Page	Rates on application	
Full A4 (Portrait) Inside Page	£160	£200
Half A4 (Landscape) Inside Page	£80	£100
Quarter A4 (Portrait) Inside Page	£40	£50
Part Page smaller than Quarter A4 inside only	£35	£50

Local Not For Profit Organisations ADVERTS (Rate Per Edition)		
	B&W	Colour
Full A4 (Portrait) Back Page	£50	£82
Full A4 (Portrait) Inside Page	£40	£65
Half A4 (Landscape) Inside Page	£20	£35
Quarter A4 (Portrait) Inside Page	£15	£27
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.

Services in August at St. John the Baptist

stjb.churchinsight.com



Sunday 2nd	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Worship with Children's Church
Sunday 9th	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion All-Age Service
Sunday 16th	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Worship
Sunday 23rd	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Village Communion with Children's Church
Sunday 30th	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Harvest Celebration on Millennium Green



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

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

- The church will now be open for private prayer every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday 9am to 5pm.
- Sundays 2nd and 23rd Children's Church 10.30am in the Church Room with crafts and activities, all children and families welcome. NB a reduced number of Children's Church for the school holidays. Children and families are still very welcome to all our services with a space for little ones and activities for children at the back of the church
- Sunday 30th All Age Harvest Celebration on the Millennium Green with games for all ages and bring your own picnic afterwards

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

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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

VILLAGE VOICES

Send your views to editorkbsnews@gmail.com

KBS Village Fête

Thank you to everyone who came to our annual Village Fête on Saturday 27th June. We hope you enjoyed the day.

Despite the very hot weather, we welcomed over 1000 people to the beautiful gardens of Kingston Bagpuize House for a glorious (and very British) afternoon. Thanks especially to Mrs Virginia Grant, as always, for her support and for allowing us to take over for the two days needed to set up and run the event.



It was lovely to see the display arena back in play this year. Sadly, the children's fancy dress competition organised by Vicky's After School Club didn't go ahead due to lack of interest – come on Mums and Dads for next time! However, the highlight of the afternoon was a fantastically energetic gymnastics display, courtesy of Miss Poppy's club in Abingdon.

As is tradition, the 2026 fête was abuzz with brilliant makers' stalls, including wonderful, hand-crafted items and a delicious array of food. We were also entertained throughout the afternoon by the Kennington Band and a variety of games and activities dotted around the site (including a really valuable interactive experience using a defibrillator and administering CPR).

Thank you to everyone involved...

- * those who, despite the sweltering temperatures, worked tirelessly to set up and clear the site
 - * the volunteers who staffed the gates and car park, baked cakes, sold raffle tickets, helped on stalls, and donated items
 - * the local organisations and entrepreneurs who ran stalls
 - * the businesses that advertised in the programme, donated raffle prizes and promises, and sponsored the event
- ... and everyone who came along. Without you, the fête simply wouldn't happen every year!

If you missed out or loved it so much you want to make sure you have the next one in your calendar already, the 2027 Village Fete will be on Saturday 26th June at KB House. And, in the meantime, if you have a view on what worked well, what we could do to improve things, or what you'd like to see in the arena next year, please drop us a line at kbsfete@gmail.com.

The KBS Village Fête Committee

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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*



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





KBS Café



Every Thursday 9am to 12pm • Southmoor Village Hall

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

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

We look forward to seeing you.

Caroline Ashby 07984523955 and Ruth 01865821386



KBS News Website

Hello everyone!

It's Georgia here from the KBS News Website Team. I thought I'd share a little update on how the KBS website has been progressing since its relaunch.

When I joined KBS News in June last year, one of my first ideas was to bring the village website back to life. It had served the community well over the years but hadn't seen a major update since around 2013, so it felt like the perfect time to give it a fresh look and make it a more useful resource for everyone. What followed has been a genuinely enjoyable journey. Working alongside Marie, Fatemeh and Steph, we brainstormed our ideas, secured funding from the Parish Council, and spent months planning, designing and building the new website. From our first meetings to the pre-launch in December, everything came together in just six months, which is something we're all incredibly proud of.

Throughout the Winter Months we could often be found tucked away in the window seat at the Waggon and Horses, laptops or notebooks open, discussing new ideas and improvements. Since then, the website has continued to grow, with more local groups, useful community information and plans for future advertising opportunities.

Along the way, we have also worked closely with members of the community to make sure the website reflected what local groups needed. We sat down with Will, who manages the Village Hall bookings, to discuss how he wanted the Village Hall page to work; worked with Sharon from the Gardening Club to ensure the Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Village Show Schedule was available on our website while their own site was undergoing maintenance; and helped promote the KB Drama Group's open auditions for their November production by sharing the notice on the website.

It's been wonderful to see so many people using the website. Since its launch, we've recorded 1,397 site sessions, including 902 unique visitors. Our busiest day was 30 January, when 36 people visited the site in a single day. Perhaps the biggest surprise has been just how far the website has travelled. While it's designed for our village, we've welcomed visitors from across the globe, including the United States, India, China and Lithuania (hello, Greta!), alongside readers much closer to home. Unsurprisingly, after the homepage, the KBS News section remains our most popular page.

I'm always looking for ways to make the website even more useful. Whether that's showcasing more local clubs (must be featured within the KBS News already), adding useful information for residents or introducing new features, we'd love to hear your ideas. If you have a suggestion, would like your group to be featured, or simply want to get in touch, please email kbsonlineinfo@gmail.com or scan the QR code to visit the website.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the website so far. It's been a real community effort, and we're excited to see where it goes next.



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





Parish council Website: kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk email: clerk@kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk Full meeting details and minutes are available online at <https://kbs-parishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings/> and minutes are displayed at the noticeboards at the Witney Road Co-op and on Faringdon Road (the Paddocks).

At its July meeting, Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Parish Council welcomed Stuart Martin as its newest councillor following his co-option to the council. Members also received updates from District Councillor Jill Rayner and County Councillor Lee Evans on a range of local issues, including forthcoming changes to the planning system, road safety concerns on the A420, parking issues, disabled facilities grants, and opportunities for community funding. Residents attending the meeting raised concerns about an overgrown public footpath and the need for additional litter bins, with both matters being taken forward.

The council noted several recent community improvements and ongoing projects. Four new bespoke benches have now been installed around the parish and have been warmly received by residents, while replacement defibrillator pads have been ordered following the recent use of the Co-op defibrillator. Councillors also agreed to replace playground pedestrian gates using a more cost-effective installation option, approved repairs to play equipment, and agreed to purchase 4,000 crocus bulbs for volunteers to plant later in the year as part of the parish's environmental initiatives. Work also continues on transferring land from Taylor Wimpey and progressing plans for the extension of the area within the burial ground for cremation plots with appropriate landscaping. Councillors also approved updated burial ground regulations and reviewed key council policies.

Looking ahead, the council continues to support the proposed parish boundary change to include the Ferrers Green development and is awaiting further feedback on the emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan.

It was agreed there would be no meeting in August unless urgent business arises. The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 7 September.

Village Litter Pick - July Report

Nine willing pairs of hands came along on a warm Sunday morning which got decidedly hotter. The heat didn't deter them and between us 12 bags of litter were collected, a valiant effort. The youngest of us started before we'd even properly got going as he was keen to clear away the various bits of litter which were scattered around our beautiful bench at the corner of Faringdon / Draycott Road.

I do find it an interesting conundrum that we currently have so many gardens which are made so neat and tidy which is not inviting for our local wildlife whilst at the same time as our streets are made untidy for all of us with discarded containers from crisps, sandwiches and drinks. The wildlife don't like the litter in their homes either, I'm sure. 'Tis a strange world indeed!



KBS Pilates

Register NOW!!!



THURSDAY

KBS VILLAGE HALL 13:30

JOHN BLANDY SCHOOL 19:00

With a Physio teaching you the best Pilates exercises to get and keep you strong.

Call Murray on 07832 049804 murraystewart@hotmail.com www.abingdonphysioandpilates.com

As ever, huge thanks to all who came along to help with the clear up. Our next outing will be in October, look out for the date in the September issue of the KBS News.



Do you have anything to say?

Send your thoughts to editorkbsnews@gmail.com



KBS Nature Notes

A bit like buses, you wait for one Unofficial Friday Walking Club adventure then two come along at once. The Other Mrs C and I followed our trip to Beacon Hill with a "wild" weekend in Dorset.

Firstly, we headed to RSPB Arne. We had a bucket list of species to see – including common lizard, Dartford warbler and osprey – but unfortunately did not see any of these on this visit. However, we were treated to a kestrel hovering above us on Hyde's Heath and a little egret from the Reedbed Hide.



Rock Samphire



Coastal Path Markers

We stayed in a Premier Inn in North Poole (I told you it was wild!) and the next day visited Hengitsbury Head. This area is renowned for its Natterjack toads, but we were a bit late in the year to see them unfortunately. However, there was an abundance of martins on the headland and lots of skylarks. As we walked towards the Quarry Lake a crowd of people were peering into the water. A couple waved us over and pointed out what had piqued everyone's interest – a grass snake sat in the water with his head poking out basking in the sun. I have seen grass snakes swimming on several occasions, but I then witnessed something that I had never seen before. The snake dived and swam completely underwater. The lake was so clear it was easy to view. The snake then rose to the surface, goosing an unsuspecting duck, so that it could emerge and sit on

a rock. We continued on our walk and ventured into the hide. There was not much action, so we left. The Other Mrs C then realised she had left a lens cap in the hide, so we went back which turned out to our advantage. A greater spotted woodpecker appeared at the nut feeder, followed by not one but two juveniles on the surrounding fence begging for food.

Our final day took us for a coastal walk from Highcliffe Castle (good breakfast in the cafe!). This is part of the recently opened King Charles III England Coast Path. Good views of the Needles one way and Old Harry Rocks the other. Lots of rock samphire on the side of the path and sea kale on the beach – good for foraging if we hadn't had a hearty breakfast.

Next time: Butterflies a plenty.

In the meantime, I am always interested in receiving your observations, photos etc. on anything from the natural world that may be of interest to our readers. Please send them to kbsnature2025@gmail.com
Best wishes.

Linda Collins



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Co-ops**

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info@mossinator.co.uk
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Thanks so much to everyone who donated plants, helped out on the day or purchased plants from us at the Plant Sale at the Village Fête last month. It was really appreciated. The number of plant donations was down slightly, which wasn't surprising given the difficult growing conditions we've experienced this year. However, the quality was good and we had a very successful day, taking just over £415. It was lovely to see some new volunteers and, hopefully, everyone had an enjoyable day despite the heat. By the time this KBS News comes out, our Summer Party will have taken place too. We thank Sheila Richards for making us welcome in her garden and members of the Committee for organising the event and preparing a beautiful spread of food.

The Village Show is almost upon us. It takes place on Saturday 22nd August and anyone in the village is welcome to enter things. (If you don't live in KBS you can still enter, but you need to join the Gardening Club, which is currently a bargain at £6 for the rest of 2026.) If you haven't yet worked out what you can enter, take a look at our Show Schedule – available for download from www.skbgardeningclub.org.uk. Children are especially welcome to enter. There are several categories judged by age, although children have been known to enter – and win prizes – in the adult categories. There's a challenge! Full instructions are in the Show Schedule. Everyone is welcome to visit the Show in the afternoon from 2 – 4pm to admire the entries, partake of refreshments and enter the giant raffle. Admission is £1 for adults and children are free.

Our monthly meetings resume on Tuesday 1st September, with a talk on 'Herbs: cultivation, culinary & medicinal uses' by David Hinckley. The talk starts at 7.30pm (doors open 7.15pm) at Southmoor Village Hall. It's free for members with visitors welcome at a cost of £4 which includes refreshments. Did I already say, membership for the rest of the year is just £6 so why not give us a try? You'll be very welcome.

Sharon Cooper (Chair)



**Do you have something to say?
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Recipe of the month

Easy Apple Cake

Prepare: 10-15min **Cook:** 1 hour 25 mins **Serves:** 6

This is a very easy to make cake – takes no effort at all. The cake is very moist and can be served on its own or with cream, ice cream or custard.

Ingredients

225g wholemeal flour
2tsp baking powder
Pinch of salt
Pinch of nutmeg
175g light muscovado sugar
150g melted butter
2 Large eggs
4 Medium apples, diced (I leave the skins on)
Demerara sugar to top
2tsp flaked almonds

Method

1. Heat the oven to 160 degrees C or gas mark 3
2. Grease a 20cm cake tin
3. Put the flour, baking powder, salt, nutmeg and sugar in a large bowl and stir in the butter and eggs
4. Beat together for a minute
5. Stir in the apples until well distributed, then spoon into the tin
6. Smooth the top and sprinkle with demerara sugar
7. Bake for about an hour, and then add the almonds and bake for a further 15-25 minutes until the mixture is coming away from the tin
8. Allow to cool for 10 minutes in the tin and then lift on to a rack to cool
9. Enjoy!!





Design your dream kitchen today.

We offer a free planning and design service to help bring your perfect kitchen to life.

Find our kitchen showroom at The Engine Centre in Kingston Bagpuize, Oxford, OX13 5AW.

Opening Hours

Mon-Weds:	10.00am - 5.30pm
Thursday:	10.00am - 6.30pm
Fri-Sat:	10.00am - 5.30pm
Sunday:	11.00am - 4.00pm

Contact Us

E: oxford@thekitchendepot.co.uk
T: 01865 580 288
W: www.thekitchendepot.co.uk





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.

Ottolenghi Bicester Village

I was chatting to a friend about famous chefs and cookery books and Ottolenghi came up. We both found his recipes challenging and she mentioned that he had a restaurant in Bicester Village, so I decided to go for a meal there rather than try to cook his food. It can be a busy place, so I headed off there at 10 am by car and arrived within 25 minutes. I parked in the multi-storey car park, which has ground floor disabled parking. The other option would have been a bus to Oxford and then direct train which takes 15 min from Oxford.



We went during the week but did not book, however were seated straightaway at 12.20. We chose to eat outside, as it is a treat in the UK, and there were parasols too as it was rather sunny. As the restaurant is tucked away at one end, it was peaceful with not too many shoppers wandering by with multiple bags. I did have a look inside and it is very modern and bright, mainly orange and white with plenty of seating including a very large table for parties and quite busy. There is also a deli there which sells the most enormous meringues too. It is spacious and vibrant and very clean.



The waiter arrived quickly and we ordered from the set menu as this seemed very popular and most tables seemed to be eating from it. There was a choice of 5 starters and 5 mains and 2 puddings. The cost was £31.95 for 2 courses or £37.95 for 3 but there were also a lot of supplements for several of the dishes including £4 for the salmon starter we chose.

The a la carte menu is quite small with 5 mains and 5 grill dishes as well as sides and starters and a few vegetarian options. As expected the food combinations were interesting and combined many flavours. The drinks menu was quite extensive and most wine comes in 3 sizes; by the glass, half bottles and full bottles. Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic cocktails are available.

Our starters came quickly. The cured salmon with horseradish and pickled cucumber was a very deep colour and very tasty and came with home-made crispbreads, which made it a good combination of textures and flavours. The other starter was houmous and flatbread which, although a good quantity, was rather dull and very beige and the flat bread rather greasy, which was disappointing, as I expected middle eastern food to be good here.

We both had the same main course, chicken shawarma with harissa yoghurt. It came with couscous. The chicken thighs were crispy and spicy. The couscous was very herby, like a tabbouleh and the yoghurt dressing tangy and plentiful. The whole combination together with the pickled cucumber worked very well and it was a good potion that was very tasty. The service was efficient and professional. Overall a pleasant meal in a surprisingly nice location.

Wilrich, two KBS foodies



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News from the Bowls Club

The club hosted a Caribbean party for members and guests on Saturday 4th July. The party games included bowling coconuts, bean bag bowling and putting. A prize was awarded to the lady with the fanciest hat, the men competed with the loudest shirt/dress.

The club welcomed a party of French guests from Mably in the Loire, visiting with the Wantage, Grove and District Twinning Association. The visitors were given instructions from club members on how to bowl, followed by teams of four visitors playing each other over a number of ends. The winning team received a well earned prize. Refreshments were provided in the club house by club members.

The club will be holding coffee mornings on 19th August and 16th September commencing at 10:30 am. All are welcome, you don't have to be members to enjoy tea and coffee and a choice of delicious cakes. Why not come along and bring a friend.



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Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group

After several weeks of reading scripts, we've chosen our November production and are delighted to announce that this year's show will be *The Wizard of Oz*, The Pantomime by James Barry.

Inspired by L. Frank Baum's much-loved classic story, this fun-filled family show follows Dorothy and her faithful dog Toto as they journey along the Yellow Brick Road in search of the mysterious Wizard of Oz. Along the way they meet the unforgettable Scarecrow, who longs for a brain, the Tinman, searching for a heart, and the Cowardly Lion, hoping to discover his courage. Together they encounter the magical Munchkins, outwit the green-faced Wicked Witch of the West, and dodge her mischievous flying monkeys in an adventure packed with laughter, colourful characters and plenty of pantomime fun.



Our production is James Barry's licensed pantomime adaptation, based on L. Frank Baum's original story, rather than the famous 1939 MGM film. This means that, due to licensing restrictions, the iconic songs from the film cannot be included. Instead, audiences can enjoy a fresh musical soundtrack alongside all the familiar characters, magical moments, comedy and audience participation that make pantomime such a special festive tradition.

Rehearsals are already underway and we can't wait to bring another evening of affordable family entertainment to the community in the run-up to Christmas.

Performance dates: Thursday 26th November to Saturday 28th November, including a Saturday matinée.

Tickets will be on sale soon with an Early Bird offer. Look out for more details in the next KBS News or follow us on Facebook for all the latest updates.

There is still the opportunity to join the group and help out during this production. We always welcome new members. If you are interested, just pop along to one of our rehearsals or contact our chair Michael Lacey, at michael1944lacey@gmail.com.



Longworth & District History Society

Next meeting in September • Southmoor Village Hall

We don't have a meeting or a visit in August. Holiday time!!

Our next meeting is in September, when we will learn about "Everyday Life in North Leigh Roman Villa" from Byron Russell. The meeting will be in Southmoor Village Hall, 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Hope to see you then. Meanwhile, have a great holiday.

Pam Woodward, 01865 820500



Family History Appeal

Brian Jones, from South Australia, is researching into his family history and is hoping to hear from anyone who may have information about a Richard Stimpson (born 1752.) Richard married Elizabeth Brown in Kingston Bagpuize on March 3rd, 1771. Elizabeth passed away in 1795, and Richard in 1801.

If you have any information, or know of any local records, stories or connections that may help with Brian's research please contact kbsonlineinfo@gmail.com.



Tip of the Month

Earn vouchers and save water

Want to save money on your water bill and be rewarded for doing so? Did you know that Thames Water has formed a partnership with Greenredeem? You simply sign up to their website - <https://thames-water.greenredeem.co.uk>. There you will find all sorts of tips and hints about how you can save water every day. The more you investigate and save water the more Ecobits you earn. 5 Ecobits earn you a £5 voucher for you to use in a variety of places including M&S, Costa Coffee, Boots and Sainsbury's



What does solar and a battery actually cost?

It's the first thing most people ask. And because every home is different, it's hard to get a straight answer without speaking to someone. Still, here are some honest numbers to start with.

A typical home solar system, around 4kW, costs between £5,500 and £8,000 fitted. Add a battery and you're usually looking at £9,000 to £14,000 for the pair. Across Kingston Bagpuize, Southmoor and the neighbouring Vale villages, that runs from traditional village homes to newer builds, and that spread is a big part of why two quotes can look so different.

The real surprise is where the money goes. On a typical job, the rough split of the kit and installation looks like this:

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10% - the inverter, which turns the panels' power into electricity your home can use.

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7% - the panels themselves.

6% - delivery and smaller extras.

Yes, the panels are one of the smallest parts. Fierce competition between manufacturers has pushed hardware prices right down, so the panels themselves are now cheap next to the work around them. What you're really paying for is skilled people, safe access up on the roof, and everything that ties it together.

And those are just the build costs. On top sit the things any company needs: design, sales, marketing, and the operations behind every job. That's why a real quote is more than the sum of the parts.

The battery is worth a second thought. It stores your daytime solar for the evening, which suits you if you're out all day and use most of your power after dark. But it adds a fair chunk to the price and stretches your payback out. If you're rarely home in daylight, or you might move soon, there's no shame in starting with panels only.

The bigger question isn't just what it costs, it's what you'll save. A good installer won't just quote you a number. They'll show you exactly what different designs and setups would save on your bills, so you can weigh the return against the cost before you decide.

Llewellyn Kinch – Director – MakeMyHouseGreen.com



**Do you have something to say?
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Youth Matters

Hello KBS! I hope everyone is having an amazing summer!

The summer holidays arrived exactly when we needed and are the time to unwind and relax from a long school year. The weather is certainly living up to our expectations and already so much has happened since the last issue of the News was printed. We have a disappointing exit from the England men's football team in the semi-finals of the FIFA World Cup (at the time of writing the winner has not been announced); we also saw Wimbledon crowning winners Jannik Sinner and Linda Nosková and even had World Chocolate Day back on July 7th.

Despite summer being the biggest school holiday of the year, having a lot of time away from a routine or usual activities can create boredom and not knowing how to occupy yourself is an issue a lot of people face. There are loads of ways to combat this, so I thought I would include some of my top 2 boredom busters, each having a rating and a difficulty, with 1 being the best/easiest. Any of them look interesting to you?

1. The KBS Village Show

- Entertainment level: 1
- To enter: (depends on what you do – e.g craft, bakery item)
- NOTE: there is a small fee (25p) for entering the classes - excluding the Children's - see website for further details
- To get to: 2 – walking distance for many living in the village – in the village hall

The village show is the PERFECT boredom buster as it has something to see for everybody. The entry form and list of categories can be found online on the KBS Gardening Club website! The list ranges from bakery items to prize veggies, fruits and flowers and even pot plants! Not to mention the photography classes, crafting classes, cake decorating, brownie making and one of the children's classes involves making a model dinosaur out of recycling! I highly recommend it, particularly as I entered for the first time last year and LOVED it. I really want to especially ask more people to enter the children's classes as there were not any children in the older group last year and the trophy was left winnerless. It is an excellent place to go as all the entries are very intriguing and I love seeing how creative our village is. Even if you are a child, you can enter ANY class in the schedule.

Find more info here: <https://www.skbgardeningclub.org.uk/index.php/village-show/>

2. Summer Holiday PROJECTS

- Entertainment level: 1 – you choose what your project is all about!
- Difficulty: It's up to you... it can be anything from baking to scrapbooking!
- To get to: it can be done all in your home or somewhere else, it depends on what your requirements are!

Have you ever wanted to do a project about something that you were interested in, with no mark schemes or must-haves? Now's your chance to create one, and the best part is, it's all up to YOU. You choose the topic (anything from the World Cup to your favourite animal, your favourite author, book or place; or maybe an issue on the news now? A problem that needs solving? Or maybe your opinion on something?) and then display it in any which way you would like. A PowerPoint Slideshow? A model? An article? Maybe even creative writing, or a movie, a video, art, music ... the possibilities are endless. It's one of the best boredom busters as you are in complete control and you do it as you would like it – it's to show your passion and interest!

I hope these suggestions are helpful and that everyone enjoys their summer holidays!

Darcey



**Don't forget our 'Out & About with the KBS News' feature.
Send your photos from all corners of the World or an
interesting location anywhere holding a copy of the KBS
News. Pics to editorkbsnews@gmail.com**



Apple Blossoms WI



Meetings resume in September • Southmoor Village Hall

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

A Cut Above the Rest!

Our June meeting was certainly a cut above the rest as we welcomed the wonderfully talented Christine Green for an evening exploring the fascinating world of paper cutting.

Christine shared the history of this intricate art form, how she first became involved, and the journey that has taken her from a hobby to a remarkable career. Armed with the very same blade passed down from her father, she demonstrated the incredible skill, patience and precision required to create her stunning designs.

We were captivated by stories from her career, which has included teaching for the BBC, creating opening credits for the Mexico World Cup, and contributing artwork for The Story of Tracy Beaker, to name just a few. Her beautiful work had us all peering a little closer and wondering how on earth such delicate designs can be created from a simple sheet of paper!

The evening was both inspiring and entertaining, leaving many of us eager to learn more about this unique craft. A huge thank you to Christine for such an engaging talk and demonstration, and for the wonderful surprise of gifting us a bespoke Apple Blossoms WI papercut design to remember the evening by.

July – Puds & Prosecco!

July brought the WI's much-loved summer social for our members. A tempting spread of desserts and a drink of your choice, whether that's a glass of fizz, a cuppa or something cold and refreshing. Mostly though, it's an evening to sit back, chat and catch up with friends old and new.

We'll be back to our usual meetings in September, when visitors and new members are always welcome to come along. Follow us on social media for more news and photos.

Naomi & Jules, Apple Blossoms WI



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Report from Cllr Lee Evans

As a Councillor, I divide my attention between issues in the 15 villages I represent (from KBS to Uffington, and most of the area in between) and policy matters at County Hall. Most of that work is pretty unglamorous and not always worth sharing, to be honest, but I frequently post updates about what I've been working on via my website and Facebook page. Very occasionally the media takes an interest, and I've found it's almost impossible to predict what the media will be interested in. But one issue that did strike a chord with the Oxford Mail recently was the sinkholes

on Laurel Drive. As I told the journalists, I'm concerned that in two places - on the pavement opposite Fir Tree Close, and by a drain on the other side of the school - a hole has appeared with a drop of around a foot beneath it. I've asked the Council to make urgent repairs, so I hope that these specific issues will have been sorted by the time you read this report. But I'm also asking the County Council to investigate what is going on beneath Laurel Drive, because we need to know urgently if these sinkholes are part of a bigger problem that needs to be fixed.

Since I last wrote for KBS News, repairs to the A420 between Buckland and Hinton Waldrist have finished. As I'm sure you've noticed, the road surface is better than it was before, when large sections of tarmac were missing. However, I'm not happy with the job. Some of the white lines are already fading, and there are sections where the surface is uneven and showing signs of cracking. The last thing I want is to secure road repairs for our area only for them to fail within weeks or months. So I've raised these issues with the highways team and told them I want to see the contractors come back out.

I recently proposed a motion at Full Council for the second time since becoming your County Councillor last year. The first motion I proposed asked the Council to scrap the new (and, in my view, unnecessary) rules for using the tip. Sadly, that was defeated. This time, I focused on how Disabled Facilities Grants work for people with progressive and terminal conditions, including Motor Neurone Disease. The motion called for proper scrutiny of whether the process is moving quickly enough to deliver the vital adaptations that people need. I'm pleased to say the motion passed. Now the real work of securing better services for people who need home adaptations begins.

You can find out more about what I've been up to as your County Councillor at www.LeeEvans.uk. And 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](https://www.facebook.com/LeeEvansOxfordshire). Thank you.

Kingston Bagpuize Village Art and Craft Club



10th August (Monday) at 9:30am • St. John the Baptist Church Hall

Despite the very hot weather we have managed to continue crafting. We enjoyed the village fête (although I forgot to take a photo of our 4 club tables that were full of goodies made by members) and it was nice when people showed interest.

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 on 10th August. We are now at 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 to meet new friends.

Jean Allsworth 07397530144

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!!*

Oxford's Detectives

Cozy crime for the beach or by the fireside in the Autumn

Ask anyone from overseas – or even from outside the county – which fictional detective they most associate with Oxford, and they will virtually all answer 'Morse'. TV aficionados will probably also add Lewis and his sidekick Hathaway, and then of course the pre-Morse Morse, 'Endeavour' and the inestimable Inspector Thursday.

Colin Dexter told me on more than one occasion that Morse arrived, fully formed, during a wet summer holiday in Wales and first appeared in 'Last Bus to Woodstock' in 1975, followed by a further twelve titles in the canon. But, of course Morse is only one in a long line of fictional detectives associated with the city. Those of us of a certain age can recall the great gentleman amateurs of the Golden Age of detective fiction who solved crimes in and around the city.



Dorothy L Sayers' sleuth, Lord Peter Wimsey, appears in a sequence of whodunnits set in Oxford, including 'Gaudy Night' and the much earlier 'Busman's Honeymoon'. Edmund Crispin's central character, Gervase Fen, appears in several books, perhaps the most memorable being 'The Moving Toyshop', which mysteriously moves between the Iffley and Banbury Roads. Michael Innes (J.I.M. Stewart) wrote a series of detective stories and thrillers in the seventies. 'Operation Pax' includes a famous chase within the Bodleian Library.

Perhaps now it is time to welcome the new kids on the block – no longer gifted amateurs but professional policemen (and women). Simon Mason's first title featuring the two DIs Wilkins – Ray & Ryan - 'A Killing in November' appeared in 2022. As Mick Herron comments: 'A terrific crime novel ... Oxford's mean streets just got meaner ...' A year or two earlier, 'Aspire to Die' by Margarita & Steve Morris was the first book to feature DI Bridget Hart and her team solving murders in and around the city. And finally we come to 'Murder in Oxford' by Christina Koning in which the Blind Detective, Frederick Rowlands investigates murder, espionage and general skulduggery in the colleges and Blenheim Palace in 1942 Wartime Oxford ...

Now pull up a deckchair and settle back with a good book ...

Ian Charlton



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Oxford Flower Club



Every fourth Thursday at 1:30pm • Cumnor Village Hall



Due to the unprecedented hot weather, our trip to Lord and Lady Heseltine's gardens at Thenford has had to be rescheduled. We hope for kinder weather when we visit in August.

Oxford Flower Club welcomed the opportunity in July to be involved in the flower festival at The Soldiers of Oxfordshire museum in Woodstock. The event 'From Battlefields to Blooms' featured spectacular floral arrangements from some of our members, all designed to respond to the museum's exhibits.

Displays featured; life coming out of the ashes, the importance of home-grown vegetables, the quiet reflection of camouflage, medals of courage and sacrifice, hope and life in the trenches, and a symbol of remembrance with white roses. Beautifully thoughtful displays, all put together by several flower clubs in Oxfordshire, were positioned throughout this interesting museum.

We meet on the fourth Thursday afternoon of the month in Cumnor Village Hall. For more details of our events programme call **Karen** on 07967 555750.



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.



KBS Badminton Club



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

As the summer holidays reach their busiest point, gardens everywhere seem to be crying out for attention. Badminton at Southmoor Village Hall offers the perfect excuse to swap the lawn mower for a racket and enjoy some friendly competition. The grass can always wait until tomorrow!

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

Our sessions can be found in the regular events section on page 3, with current availability as follows - Beginner: Currently full (waiting list available). Contact Scott - spj74@outlook.com

Intermediate: Currently full (waiting list available). Contact Jenny - jenny.frame@live.co.uk

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



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



Magnus Macfarlane

Statues Part Two - Muses

Oxford is quite old. We sometimes forget how lucky we are with recent modern convenience. Oxford's grid pattern of streets was set 800 years ago by the Anglo Saxons – today, it is dreadful for cars. But gas lights were supplied by the Oxford Gas Light and Coke Company in 1819. (The last gas light was ceremonially switched off in 1979 on New College Lane.) Electric power appeared in 1892 from the Osney Power Station. Open sewers started to be replaced with underground sewers in 1873. The old architecture, however, and its decoration is still very much with us today.

The neo-classical Clarendon building, designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor, a pupil and partner of Christopher Wren, was finished in 1715, funded largely by the 1st Earl of Clarendon's book, "History of the Great Rebellion", about the civil war. On the roof there are nine muses (sources of artistic inspiration), originally added in 1717 after much resistance to this controversial addition by the University. For understandable reasons of health and safety, we are not allowed to walk on the roof. We have had to view them from the ground, as well as the cupola on the Sheldonian. Until now.



Clarendon Building



Until September this year, you can walk among three, full size Muses which are on display in the Weston Library. This is such a rare opportunity. For 300 years, they have mostly survived in all weathers on the roof. Their original structure, using iron encased in lead, has corroded over the years, indeed "tragedy" fell down! They have now undergone considerable maintenance, renovation and/or reconstruction – this time in lead and stainless steel. They will be painted to look like marble as they originally were, with brass highlights. The new ones should last at least twice as long. This is your chance in time, a chance in a millennium, to walk amongst them and see them face to face.

The inspirational muses are the mythical daughters of Zeus each represent a goddess of literature, science or the arts. The 9 muses are Calliope: epic poetry and rhetoric; their leader, Clio: history; Euterpe: music and lyric poetry; Melpomene: tragedy; Polyhymnia: rhetoric; Terpsichore: dance and choral song; Thalia: comedy and idyllic poetry; and Urania: astronomy. There is a 10th statue being restored - Clarendon himself! The three on display are Clio (original lead statue), Calliope (lead reproduction) and Polyhymnia (original statue). My Favourite? Polyhymnia, of course, the muse of rhetoric and the spoken word.



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All villagers – adults and children - are welcome to take part or visit!



Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor

Village Show

Saturday 22nd August

at the Village Hall, Draycott Road

Show opens at 2pm

Presentation of prizes at 3.45pm

Raffle at 4pm

Displays of fruit, vegetables, flowers, arts & crafts,
Jams & jellies, cakes and biscuits, photographs,
Flower arranging and much more!

Home-made refreshments for sale

Admission £1.00 Children free Sorry no dogs (except guide dogs)

Please note that this is a 'Cash Only' event.

It's not too late to enter this fun event!

5 easy steps...

1. Download and look at the Schedule (QR code below or via web site)
2. Choose which categories you want to enter – lots to choose from!
3. Get growing / cooking / drawing / crafting / snapping / creating....
4. Fill in an entry form (p8 of Schedule) and drop off by 8pm Thursday 20/08/26
5. Drop off your entries at the Village Hall 9am – 10.30am Saturday 22/08/26

You never know... you may win a prize!

Organised by Southmoor and Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club
on behalf of the village

www.skbgardeningclub.org.uk

