

# Horton-cum- Studley

March 2017

## newsletter

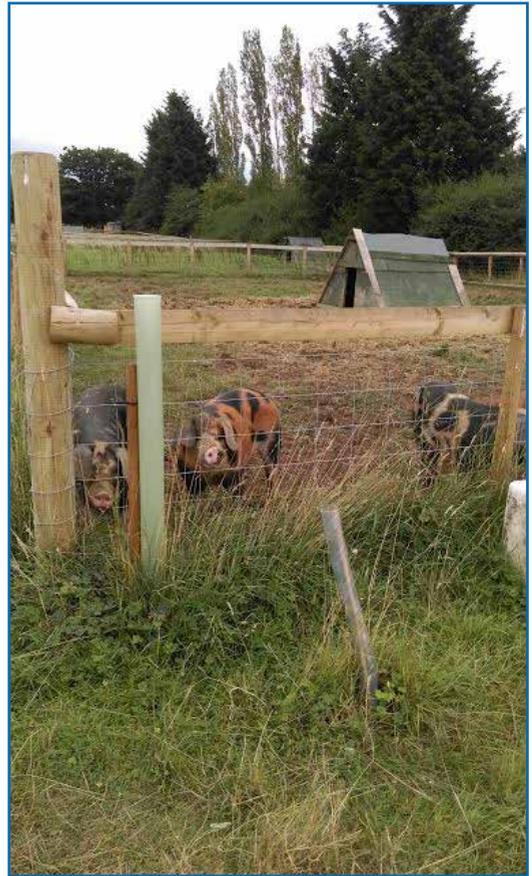
**Inside this issue:** Parish Council News • The Otmoor Flyer  
Group Reports • Junior Photographers' Winning Photos  
and much more



**COMMUNITY SAVES  
THE ABINGDON ARMS!**

Otmoor Pigs by Sophia Buttery

**HERE ARE THE PHOTOS  
FROM THE WINNING  
JUNIOR PHOTOGRAPHERS  
IN THE 2016 VILLAGE  
PHOTO COMPETITION**



Evening Harvest after Fixing the  
Combine by Francesca Buttery



---

---

# **THE ABINGDON ARMS IS NOW COMMUNITY OWNED!**

**Great news!** The Beckley & Area Community Benefit Society (CBS) Ltd is now the proud owner of The Abingdon Arms, Beckley. As you may know, Beckley & Area CBS launched a share offer to buy The Abingdon Arms in October last year and raised an amazing £475,750 from 270 investors: most of whom are from the local villages of Beckley, Horton-cum-Studley, Elsfield, Noke and Stanton-St-John, but we also have investors from all around the UK, and even the USA and Australia too!

With the finance raised, the society made an offer to Brakspear to buy the pub. The offer was accepted in November and the community purchase completed on 26 January 2017. It has been a lot of hard work, but it has been heart-warming to see so many people supporting the project and has created a real sense of community cohesion. This is a great success story, but there are still challenges ahead. The Society is now looking for a professional tenant to build a successful business at The Abingdon Arms.

In the future, the Society would also like to develop The Abingdon Arms as “More than a Pub” with services and facilities beyond the traditional role of a local pub, and have been offered a grant and loan to do so. Proposals include a local shop with essential goods (potentially run in conjunction with the Stanton-St-John shop), a café, a bike-repair service, a parcel-collection service, socially inclusive functions, an art gallery and a venue for music evenings. Let’s see. One step at a time.

If you want to find out more about developments at The Abingdon Arms, go to our website:

[www.savetheabingdonarms.org](http://www.savetheabingdonarms.org)



## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

It was good to see that Oxfordshire Highways had honoured their word by repainting the village road markings before Christmas and we hope this will help road safety in the village, particularly the T-junction by The Forge. We are now waiting with baited breath for road surfacing to be done in the spring. Road surveyors have been seen measuring along the Straight Mile, so let us be hopeful!

Towards the end of January, I received a phone call from the Neighbourhood Action Group based in Kidlington to say they were trying to reinstate the group once again. I look forward to hearing of their progress. In the meantime, I would like to warn residents to make sure their property and possessions are kept secure. We have had one or two burglaries in the village, including the theft of a car. When your car is in the drive do make sure it is locked up and the keys are in a safe place – never leave the car with

the engine running and pop back into the house!

The Parish Council have purchased a vehicle-activated speed sign and, as this Newsletter is being prepared, it should be delivered to our Parish Clerk. It will be transportable, so we can experiment to see what effect it has on vehicle speed at various point in the village. It may be worth buying more in the future. The device will store information, not only the speed, but also how many vehicles pass through the village in a certain period. This information can be passed on to the police. We are hoping to restart the SpeedWatch campaign when summertime begins. We are still about 7 volunteers short, so if you feel able to join us, please contact Barbara Jewell (tel. 351315).

Since the last Newsletter, the four parishes of Forest Hill, Stanton-St-John, Horton-cum-Studley and

---

---

Beckley have, with their Transport Representatives, formed a small bus service called the Otmoor Flyer. Each parish council has paid £1000 into the scheme and passengers are asked to pay £3 for a return journey into Oxford. More information and details of how to purchase a ticket can be obtained from our Transport Representative, Jill Meyjes (tel. 351496).

During the 3 to 19 March, we will be holding our Village Spring Clean. Cherwell District Council will deliver black sacks and litter picking sticks to our Parish Clerk's house, Kimber House, Horton Hill. We do encourage

residents to collect these aids and clear the rubbish from the area around which they live. We do seem to accumulate an unsightly amount of rubbish in the village and if everyone kept the area around their house free from rubbish all year round we would have a more pleasant, tidy village to live in.

We now look forward to spring and summer activities, bearing in mind that June is going to be a busy month in the village with the Otmoor Challenge and celebrations for St Barnabas Church's 150th anniversary.

*Barbara Jewell (351315)*

## **The Golf Club Social Night**

It is a shame we don't still have a village pub, but Studley Wood Golf Club welcomes all villagers at any time. In particular, they organise a village-focused evening on the last Friday of each month offering an interesting and affordable menu. Numbers for such events vary from 20 to 40.

For more information contact Iveta on  
[iveta@studleywoodgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:iveta@studleywoodgolfclub.co.uk) or ring  
Ruth David on 351444.

---

---

## The Otmoor Flyer

The Otmoor Flyer has been running since early December and is now settling down with its regular passengers enjoying a friendly journey to Oxford via Headington. It leaves the village from the Brill Road bus stop at 10.30am (or thereabouts!) on Tuesdays and Fridays, and arrives in Oxford about 11.15am in Beaumont Street, leaving again at 1.15pm outside the Ashmolean.

The 16 seater mini buses have been made available by Oxfordshire County Council at off-peak times (when they are not taking frail elderly and disabled people to day centres etc. and children to special schools) and fulfil a need in the community to allow those without cars, or those who choose not to drive, to travel to

Oxford twice a week, since the loss of our subsidised service. A similar service runs from Forest Hill and Stanton-St-John on Mondays and Thursdays.

The Flyer is run by a small group with a member from each of the four villages, supported by the four Parish Councils. Tickets are bought in advance in each village at £15.00 each, one token ticket allowing 10 single journeys or 5 return journeys, which are marked off by the driver.

A total of 71 tickets have been sold to date across the 4 villages, amounting to £1,065. The total cost for 1 week is £116 and is covered by ticket sales, with the shortfall being made up by the Parish Councils. Tickets here can

be bought from me, and I wish the Flyer all success and am sure it will continue to flourish.

*Jill Meyjes (351496)*



---

---

## HORTON-CUM-STUDLEY W.I.

At our November meeting, we were reminded that the Christmas season was drawing near. Our speaker, Ann Sharman, regaled us with an entertaining talk recalling the customs and traditions of centuries past and present. December being a time to celebrate, members travelled to the Mole and Chicken Pub at Easington, Bucks, to enjoy a delicious Christmas meal together.

We welcomed Mr Warren Ford to our first meeting in the New Year, to talk to us on the subject of tea. Mr Ford having been involved in the tea business throughout his working life with Taylors of Harrogate. He began by outlining the history of tea from its introduction into England up to the present day. With a PowerPoint presentation, he demonstrated the process from tea bush to tea leaf, explaining the different varieties and flavours. He explained how, in the past century, the different tea companies had amalgamated resulting

at the present time with Taylors, producing Yorkshire tea, being the only surviving independent company. Mr Ford concluded by advising the audience on how to make a proper cup of tea(!) and giving each lady a sample packet of tea to take home.

In February, we will be drawing out bursary, allowing two members to attend a course at Denman College. Our speaker will be Mr Russell Cherry, his talk entitled 'The Oldest Road' will focus on the Ridgeway.

The Annual General Meeting will take place in March. I will be standing down as president, having served 5 years. A new president and committee will be elected.

We are always pleased to welcome new members. Our meetings are held in the Millennium Hall on the second Tuesday in the month. For more details contact Beryl on 358805.

*Beryl Fleming (President)*

### **Otmoor Archaeological and Historical Society**

**Wednesday 1st March** – Dr Eleanor Standley (Inst. Of Archaeology & Dept. of Antiquities, Ashmolean Museum) “Dress and everyday life in the Medieval Period”

**Wednesday 5th April** – AGM, followed by a short film.

All meetings are held at Islip Village Hall, starting at 8pm.

---

---

## HORTON-CUM-STUDLEY TENNIS CLUB



We had a very successful AGM back in January with lots of support, so thank you to all those who attended. We have a very exciting year coming up, with lots of activities for all ages. This is our 25th anniversary, so we will be organising a big event in the summer.

We will be launching a new club social this year, taking place from April on Sundays 3–5pm. This is for experienced players and rusty racquets alike. There will always be a committee member there, so come and join us if you fancy a game. Following on from last year, coaching for adults and juniors will be starting again in May.

Memberships are the same as last year so please join the club – it's such fun and a great way to meet new people.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the committee members for all their hard work. They all lead busy lives with young children, so thank you!

Best wishes and See you on the courts!

*Sara Mander (Chairman)*

[www.hcstennis.com](http://www.hcstennis.com)

A **big** thank you to everyone  
who supported the coffee morning at  
Grove House on 5th November. £621.50 was  
raised for Sobell House!

*Pauline Cox*

---

---

## GTs NEWS

We attended the Oxford Operatic production of Oliver in November, which proved to be a very enjoyable evening due to a highly professional adaptation. In December, we visited the New Weston Library. Even though guides are not normally provided, we were fortunate enough to be taken under the wing of a friendly member of staff, who talked to us about the most interesting exhibits.

More than 20 members attended the January meeting, hosted by Rachel Hawes, to listen to a fascinating talk given by Lisa Mynheer about life in Ghana, a country she visits on a regular basis to help individuals start up new businesses. She was also able to show slides of the nursery and

school at which she helps in her free time. Most people would be happy viewing the local wildlife from the safety of a hide or Land Rover, but the intrepid Lisa has straddled a crocodile on a recent trip and has the photographs as evidence!

Dinner at Portobello in Summertown has been planned for February. Our planning meeting is on March 16th, when we will organise the next 6 months programme.

Anyone interested in more information please contact Ruth on 01865-351444.

*Ruth David*

### **Mary Timms**

Mary Timms, long-time resident of the village and stalwart supporter of our church very sadly passed away on 3rd January, aged 88.

She will be much missed.

# Citizens Advice helped me find a way forwards

**Call in** - drop in advice  
sessions in

**Banbury, Bicester & Kidlington.**

**Call us** - advice line **03444 111 444** (local call)

Online at **[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)** and  
**[www.caox.org.uk](http://www.caox.org.uk)**

**citizens  
advice**



**Whoever you are,  
whatever your problem.  
Free, impartial &  
confidential advice**

---

---

## HORTON-CUM-STUDLEY GARDENING CLUB

Our winter programme finished with two excellent speakers. On October 18th, Chris Brown talked about Amazing Alpines, highlighted by many magnificent slides, which showed how many different colours, shapes and sizes there are.

November 15th came very much more local, when Barry Oxley from the RSPB spoke about Otmoor plants and wildlife. This gave a tremendous insight into how



many birds and animals live on our doorstep, but also those who only pass

through when migrating. This was again complimented with some very good photographs.

The AGM was held on January 17th, when subscriptions for the year became due. Mulled wine and mince pies were enjoyed by all, and some members gave accounts of a few of the highlights that occurred in their gardens in the past year.

New members are very welcome to join us. Winter meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 8pm in the Millennium Hall. For further information please ring Richard Hawes on 01865-351540.

*Richard Hawes*

---

## Safe and Well visits from Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

Did you know that Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service offer free Safe and Well Visits? Our firefighters will visit you at home to see what they can do to help you reduce the risk of fire.

What does a visit cover? It combines a Home Safety Check to help reduce the risk of fire in your home, such as checking and fitting smoke alarms and helping you make a fire escape plan. We can also offer you advice and support to help your health and wellbeing.

During the visit, firefighters are able to provide advice and support to reduce any immediate risk from falls, fire, flood

or power cuts, along with advice to help protect you from scams and doorstep crime.

You can request a visit online at [www.365alive.co.uk/safewell](http://www.365alive.co.uk/safewell) or call our Community Safety Helpline on 08000 325 999. If a loved one or friend would benefit from a visit please let them know about our Safe and Well visits.

Do you have a fire safety concern or question? There's lots of great tips and advice to help keep you and your family safer at home on [www.365alive.co.uk](http://www.365alive.co.uk). Or you can call our Community Safety Helpline on 08000 325 999.

---

---

## THE OTMOOR CHALLENGE

Saturday 3rd June 2017 marks the 38th annual Otmoor Challenge. This is the biggest event in Horton-cum-Studley's social calendar, and, once again, we expect to enjoy a fabulous event. For newcomers to the village, the Challenge comprises three events: the village fete, a half-marathon (13.2 miles) competitive race around the roads and tracks of Otmoor, and a half-marathon walk around the same route. There is also a shorter, 5 mile, walk suitable for families and younger walkers.

The fete is held on the Millennium Hall playing field, starting at 12 noon. In addition to the excellent teas provided by the Women's Institute, we also have a licensed bar, BBQ and many other attractive stalls including that of the Gardening Club, who sell a wide variety of plants, the bottle stall, book stall, White Elephant, cakes and many more. There are entertainments and games for children, as well as the opportunity to meet your local police and see some of their operational equipment. Musical entertainment is provided by the Wantage Silver Band, and, in the evening, villagers and friends can relax with a pig-roast, bar and live music whilst meeting their fellow villagers.

The half-marathon run starts at 2pm, and attracts runners of all standards from local clubs, individuals and from further afield. We normally attract about 350 runners, both male and female, who leave from the start-line in the middle of the fete. Walkers – again, over 300 – can start from the field between 9am and midday.

Details of the whole Otmoor Challenge can be found on our website at [www.otmoorchallenge.co.uk](http://www.otmoorchallenge.co.uk), together with entry forms for the run. Enter early and you can save £3 on your entry fee!

We are always seeking to bring new volunteers – together with their new ideas – into the Otmoor Challenge Association. Currently, we are looking for someone to manage the bar on 3rd June. Can you help? Ring Andrew Pennington (Chairman of the Otmoor Challenge Association) on 01865-358800 for more information.

Let's make this year's Otmoor Challenge the biggest and best in its 38 year history!

See you there on **Saturday 3rd June!**

*Andrew Pennington*  
*Chairman Otmoor Challenge Association*

---

---

## **Celebration Weekend 9–11th June – 150th Birthday of our Village Church**

The 150th birthday of our unique Victorian George Butterfield church is an excuse for a weekend of celebrations. Put the dates in your diaries so that you are around and can join in the festivities. The weekend will include talks on the history of the parish church and its treasures (Friday evening 7.30pm), a concert (Saturday evening 7.30pm) and a birthday service presided over by the Bishop of Oxford (Sunday evening 6.00pm). A flower festival will adorn the church, and refreshments will be served at the church throughout the day on Saturday and Sunday.

We are hoping as many people as possible will take the opportunity to get involved to make this a community event. We are looking for volunteers to make cakes or scones and to help serve refreshments. So do consider where you might be able to help out and get in touch with:

- Annie Payne – 351018 (to help with flowers)
- Ruth David – 351444 (to help with Saturday teas)
- Rachel Hawes – 351540 (to help with Sunday teas)
- Lisa Mynheer – 351340 or Lynn Whitaker – 358838 (to help generally)

### **VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN**

**THE VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN DATES THIS YEAR ARE FROM  
3 MARCH TO 19 MARCH.**

**PLEASE HELP YOURSELF TO BAGS, GLOVES, HIGH VIZ AND  
LITTER PICKS FOR THE ANNUAL VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN  
FROM KIMBER HOUSE, HORTON HILL, FROM FRIDAY  
3 MARCH AND BE SURE TO RETURN YOUR BAGS OF  
RUBBISH BEFORE 19 MARCH.**

---

---

## NEWS FROM ST BARNABAS CHURCH

### Christmas Services Carol Service

What a great idea: on the Sunday before Christmas why not join in singing carols and listening again to the traditional Christmas Story read from the Bible in a decorated church with family, friends and other members of your community? Even better if that was followed by mulled wine, mince pies and some delicious sweets. That's exactly what almost 70 people did when they went to the village church for a traditional service of carols and readings, organised by Lisa Mynheer and led by our curate, David Bendor-Samuel. It was a joyful and thankful occasion, and we offer our grateful thanks to all who decorated the church and especially to the Whitaker family for decorating the beautiful tree grown and given by Chris and Liz Pugh, and to Derek Jewell for his choice of carols and his organ accompaniment.

### Crib Service

On Christmas Eve, adults and children once again packed the church for the Crib Service. The congregation remained seated throughout, so that all could see what was happening. The Christmas Story was told step by step by readings from the Bible. Some of the children were readers. After each

reading, one of the children brought forward a figure representing a character in the reading, whilst a verse of an appropriate



carol was sung. In this way, the manger scene was gradually recreated at the front of the church with Mary and Joseph, the baby, animals, shepherds, and wise men. The challenge to the adults was, of course, “*how do you respond to this story?*” Thanks to Lynn Whitaker and Nicholas Mynheer who led and organised this service. With over 100 people present, this is probably the most well-attended service of the year and we hope it will continue to be so well attended in the future.

### Dates for your Diary Tearfund Service and Lunch

We hope you will join us at the Tearfund soup and bread and cheese lunch on March 19th. The money raised will be used to help fund our Tearfund project, which will provide Ethiopian families with loans to start small businesses. This involves providing funds that enable Ethiopian Christians to organise people from

---

---

poor families into self-help groups in which people learn first to save money and then borrow some money to start businesses. It works mainly with women from the poorest families in urban areas and requires supporting action on a number of fronts, including literacy, and education and training on HIV and AIDS, health, hygiene and sanitation. You can read the story of how one lady benefitted at: [http://connected.tearfund.org/en/partners/ekhc/blog/1609\\_s\\_tsige/](http://connected.tearfund.org/en/partners/ekhc/blog/1609_s_tsige/)

### **St Barnabas 150th Anniversary**

Keep the dates Friday 9th – Sunday 11th June free so you can join in events that are being arranged to celebrate 150 years since St Barnabas Church was opened. To offer your help please call Lisa Mynheer on 351340 or email [lisamynheer@gmail.com](mailto:lisamynheer@gmail.com) (see the separate item on page 13).

### **Easter Services**

On Good Friday, there will be an hour of meditation before The Cross from 2pm – 3pm, and on Easter Sunday we will celebrate Christ's resurrection in a communion service at 11am.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be on Wednesday April 26th in the Millennium Village Hall at 7.30pm for 8.00. Refreshments will be available at the start. Reports about

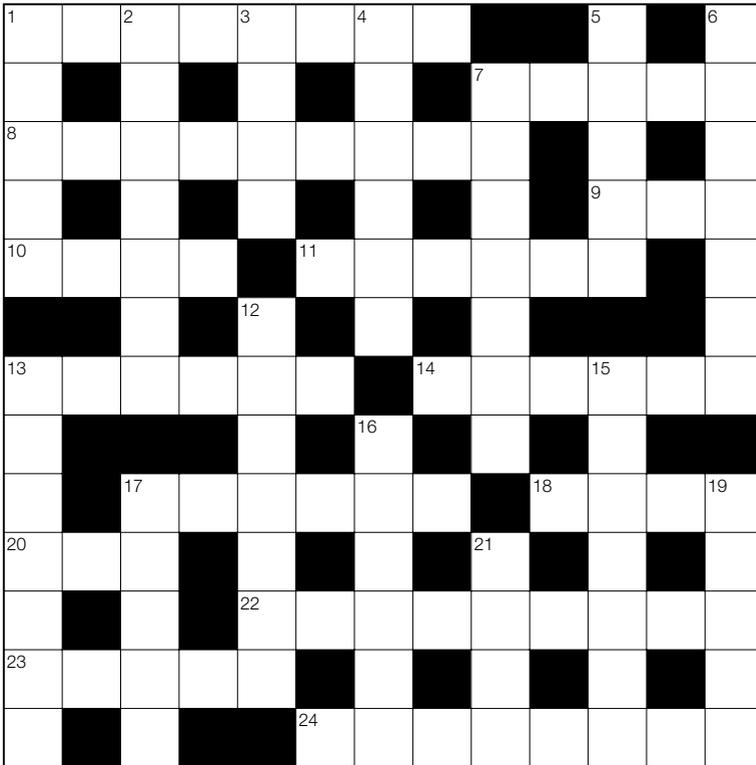
church activities and the financial situation will be received. If you wish to be able to vote at that meeting you need to be on the church electoral roll. To qualify for the roll you must live in the Parish or be a regular worshipper at St Barnabas. If your name is not currently on the roll, and you would like it to be and you qualify, then contact David Turner (351460) for an application form. Forms must be returned to him by Sunday 9th April. You may be interested to learn that, despite popular belief, the church does not receive money from the government to do its work. Some grants may be given for repairs for some buildings, but churches have to raise funds from donations to pay for the upkeep and staff who are employed.

### **Contact**

The vicar, the Rev Andrew Pritchard-Keens (07944-522098), and the churchwardens, Lynn Whitaker (358838) and Andrew Payne (351018), would be pleased to talk to anyone who wants to know more about the church, or who would appreciate support from church members.

*David Turner (351460)*  
*([dart.prioryend@btinternet.com](mailto:dart.prioryend@btinternet.com))*

# Crossword



All entries to Pauline Cox at Grove House, Horton Hill, by 31st March 2017.

The first correct answer drawn wins a bottle of wine.

The winner of the last crossword competition was Linda Marshall.

## Across

- 1 Military aide (8)
- 7 Facial marking or short jacket? (5)
- 8 Large tour or fat controller? (9)
- 9 Wheel part found in serious offence when church departed (3)
- 10 Country bumpkin perhaps, scrambled without energy, leaves you with this (4)
- 11 The Avengers hide blissful state (6)
- 13 In a roundabout way keep thy ear to the ground (6)
- 14 Sad venture concealed appearance (6)

- 17 Push car amongst black stuff in OK place (6)
- 18 A bit returned mouse catching device (4)
- 20 The only number expressed initially before "lift off!" (3)
- 22 Quiet Bert arranged fuel for barbecue (9)
- 23 Any street cut short and turned over is extremely unpleasant (5)
- 24 Troubles if cast flew about without directions (8)

## Down

- 1 Wide selection (5)
- 2 Of the neck or throat (7)
- 3 Confused stupid person didn't keep mum (4)
- 4 Then Queen Elizabeth shuffled about underground (6)
- 5 Pile of stones or type of dog? (5)
- 6 Men fret about commotion (7)
- 7 Five abroad dance and swagger (7)
- 12 As a result of (7)
- 13 Explain in detail Ireland's currency unit since 2001 (7)
- 15 Carter, I gather, is unpredictable (7)
- 16 Duty (6)
- 17 Pull the plug on electricity in case (5)
- 19 Bridge supports Mr Morgan perhaps (5)
- 21 Meditate, on Scottish island perhaps (4)

## AGE UK OXFORDSHIRE

Age UK is promoting the Community Network Project.

**Directory** – a free, online search tool that features a wide variety of activities, support and opportunities available throughout Oxfordshire. You can find it at [www.aguk.org.uk/oxfordshire](http://www.aguk.org.uk/oxfordshire) or call 0343 450 1276 and they will search the Directory on your behalf.

**Information drop-ins** – these are held across the county, providing information and advice on a variety of groups, activities, services and organisations giving support and help. If you are unable to get to a drop-in event but you have a question or would like some more information,

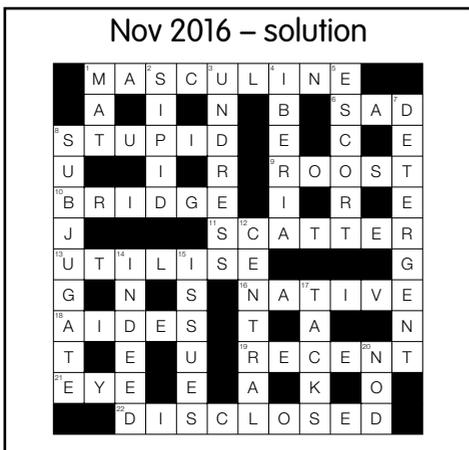
please contact Helen in the Age UK office in Abingdon – 01235 849 434.

### IT lessons and gadget drop-ins

Have you got a laptop, tablet or smart-phone that you are not sure how to use or feel that you are not making the best use of? If so, visit one of the gadget drop-ins or IT classes – the nearest centres for us would be Kidlington, Bicester or Abingdon – I have more details with addresses.

**A friendly voice at end of the phone** – ‘Phone Friends’ provides older people who feel lonely with a regular, free, friendly phone call from one of Age UK’s Phone Friends volunteers. If you would be interested in receiving a phone call or know someone who you feel would really benefit from a weekly chat, please contact Paula on 07557 038 278. If you would be interested in joining the team of volunteers please call Paula.

*Ann Stearns - Parish Link for  
Age UK Oxfordshire*



---

---

## Village Classifieds

Live in Horton-cum-Studley? Have something for sale? Or a service/business you want to promote? Free of charge? Yes? Then this section is for you!

Send your short text advert to the editor at claudettedoe@yahoo.co.uk by 16 June 2017 for inclusion in the July issue.

### HOME PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE

Physiotherapy in your own home with an experienced local physiotherapist. Established 20 years. Conditions treated – neurological problems, falls and balance, and post-surgery recovery.

Contact Judy Delafield on 07768-877568.

Email/website: judy@home-physio.co.uk/www.home-physio.co.uk

### HORTON-CUM-STUDLEY TODDLER GROUP

At the Millennium Hall, Horton-cum-Studley, 10–11.30am on the following Mondays: March 6th and 20th, April 3rd and 24th, May 8th and 22nd, June 12th and 26th, July 10th.

Contact: Laura – laurabadger@hotmail.com

### HANDMADE GREETINGS CARDS FOR SALE IN HORTON

I recycle wrapping paper to create a range of unique collages. Generic and birthday styles are available. Individual card: £1. Pack of 5: £4.50. Pack of 10: £8.50.

Please email Caroline at cjgharrison08@googlemail to see samples and express interest.

### VILLAGE RARE-BREED PORK AND CHARCUTERIE

We are setting up a small enterprise with our own pigs (local rare-breed Oxford Sandy and Blacks). We currently have chorizo, salami, dry cured bacon and sausages for sale.

Contact Andy & Liz Campbell, White Gate, Church Lane, call or text on 07855 300701, email: otmoorpigcharcuterie@gmail.com, website: otmoorpigcharcuterie.com

Happy to drop off locally or just call in if passing by (someone is usually in, we can make sure if you contact us first).

### REFLEXOLOGY TREATMENTS WITH CATRIN

Hourly sessions in Horton-cum-Studley

For more details please get in touch:

07960659314/

angelcolours5@yahoo.com

### FOR SALE

Camping Gaz 2 burner Cooker and Grill  
– NEVER USED – £25.00

Aluminium Multipurpose Ladder,  
converts to Work Platform – £25.00

Jill Meyjes – tel. 01865 351496

---

---

## Bircher Muesli for Breakfast

For 4 people

1 can evaporated milk  
1 can of porridge oats  
Unsalted cashews, chopped almonds  
or any other nut  
Dates  
Flaked almonds  
Seeds  
1 apple  
1 banana  
Any fresh fruit you want



### Method

Put the evaporated milk and oats into a bowl, cover with cling film, and put in the fridge overnight.

Depending on the oats, if the mixture is too dry in the morning, add a little milk to soften it.

Chop up an apple, a banana, dates, seeds, or any other fruit you fancy, and add it to the mixture and serve.

Flaked almonds make a nice crunchy top.

*Elizabeth Kenworthy-Browne*

### ANOTHER VILLAGE LIMERICK

The calendar from Horton-cum-Studley

Sure brightened up my Christmas Day

I would love it next year

If my pics could appear

So I'll spend the year snapping away

BBC

TWO

Do you own something broken that you'd love to see restored?

Nestled deep in the British countryside is The Repair Shop, a place where broken and battered beloved artefacts, antiques, and curios come back to life.

In a new Ricochet TV series for BBC TWO a team of Britain's most passionate and skilled crafts people will rescue broken objects and restore them to their former glory.

If you have a damaged heirloom, a prized antique, a loved one's treasured possession, or anything else that needs restoring get in touch now on:

01273 224 829

[repair@ricochet.co.uk](mailto:repair@ricochet.co.uk)

RICOCHET



A WARNER BROS. TELEVISION  
PRODUCTION UK COMPANY

---

---

## NEWS FROM OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AND CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL

### FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR and DISTRICT COUNCILLOR for OTMOOR **Tim Hallchurch**

The main activates in both councils have been the 2017–2018 budget and unitary authorities.

The major development has been the agreement between Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), South Oxfordshire District Council (DC) and Vale of White Horse DC to propose a county unitary. This leaves Oxford City, West Oxfordshire and Cherwell with South Northants developing their own proposals.

Barry Wood, leader of Cherwell DC very much disagrees with the above proposals. A significant sticking point is that Cherwell DC has money in the bank and is running with the Graven Hill self-build initiative to make profits to save Cherwell DC council tax payers. OCC has long-term debts from about 15 years ago, when the county, under a previous regime, overspent and still owes around £50 million. Cherwell DC does not like the idea of its hard-earned savings being used to bail out the

county. However, OCC, with an independent study, has shown that a single unitary for the county will make considerable savings.

Another problem for Cherwell DC is the combining with South Northants. It would not be possible to create a Cherwell–South Northants unitary without the agreement of Northampton CC. Even for Cherwell to join the Oxfordshire unitary as proposed by OCC, it would mean that Cherwell would have to ‘divorce’ South Northants.

Central government may step in and force an Oxfordshire unitary, and I expect that this will be the eventual outcome. That or leave things as they are.

At the budget meeting on 14th February, after a 7 hour debate, the OCC narrowly agreed a budget for 2017–2018. Details are on the OCC web site, but it will mean a 5% increase in council tax, about £65 for the average household.

*Tim Hallchurch*  
*01865-377099*

*timothy.hallchurch@oxfordshire.gov.uk*

*Web site: [www.otmoor.co.uk](http://www.otmoor.co.uk)*

---

---

## Acclimatising Horses to Life

Training your horse is an ongoing process and people will spend many years teaching their horses to jump or perform complicated dressage manoeuvres, but one vital area that often doesn't receive enough work is general training of the horse to be more confident and able to cope with frightening situations. Horses are flight animal and their natural instinct when they feel afraid or unsure is to run away, fast. Most rides around the lanes and bridleways bring horses into contact with frightening and potentially very dangerous situations, from speeding motorists passing too close and overtaking uphill on a blind bend, cyclists pushing their way through a narrow gap between the horse and a passing car (!), lorries, tractors, loose dogs and lamas to frolicking cattle, people gardening behind a fence and plastic bags in hedges! It is not reasonable to expect flight animals to never be afraid of the myriad of situations that they encounter, but one can train them how to cope better when they are afraid.

Before Christmas, Otmoor Riding Group members were able to take part in a training clinic with Sandra Williams to help acclimatise their horses to life. Sandra is a senior tutor and recommended associate with Intelligent Horsemanship, the UK-based organisation that champions compassionate horse training methods that work with the psychology of the horse rather than against it to achieve impressive results. Over the course of the 2 hour clinic, riders and horses were asked to tackle a selection of potentially scary obstacles, first with riders on foot and then on horseback, but all in very small stages, to gradually build up the horses' confidence in themselves and in their handlers. Although this was only lesson one, through the use of this incremental approach, everyone (equine and human) achieved feats of bravery that did not seem possible at the start.

*Otmoor Riding Group (358363)*

Horton-cum-Studley Village Newsletter is published three times a year by the Parish Council.

Would all regular contributors please submit copy by e-mail.

Next issue deadline is 16 June 2017.

Send your views, letters, photos to Claudette Doe at [claudettedoe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:claudettedoe@yahoo.co.uk)

Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Parish Council.

Design by Jenna Zan @ Zed • Print/Produced by Parchment

Published by H-c-S Parish Council 2017.

For enquiries regarding delivery, please contact Richard and Rachel Hawes on 01865 351540.



Confidence training with  
Otmoor Riding Group

Santa visits the  
Toddler Group  
Christmas party



Village Christmas  
party at the  
Millennium Hall

# THE 2017 VILLAGE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

We are now inviting residents of Horton-cum-Studley to submit their entries for the 2017 village photography competition. Once again, we are looking for images taken around Horton-cum-Studley and Otmoor depicting scenes of village life, people and animals, and classic village locations, suitable for use in our village calendar.

Entries are limited to a maximum of 5 photos per person and close on 31st August 2017. Images you have taken previously are acceptable as long as they haven't been submitted to the previous photo competitions.

A title should be provided for each image.

Ages should be provided for photographers who are under 18 years.

**Please send your entries (high-resolution files please) to:**

[hortoncumstudleyparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:hortoncumstudleyparishcouncil@gmail.com)

Enquiries to Alexia Lewis [351025]



The Oxford University Museum of Natural History recently presented the Oxford Photographic Society Annual Exhibition, this year titled The Natural World. The image selected to promote the exhibition was Bald Eagle by Horton-cum-Studley resident Ron Perkins. It was taken on an expedition to Alaska. Ron is a former winner of the British Wildlife Category in the Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition. He is also one of the esteemed judges of our village photography competition.