St Andrew's Hagbourne

PARISH MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2025



WE WILL REMEMBER
Remembrance Sunday 9th November

News, Views and Information for everyone in the Hagbournes and Coscote

Thank you very much to the East and West Hagbourne Parish Councils for giving the Parish Magazine a home on their websites.

www.easthagbourne.net

www.westhagbourne.org

CHURCH CALENDAR AND DIARY FOR NOVEMBER 2025

The Prayer Intentions this month are for all who live in East Hagbourne.

1 Saturday

2 + Sunday ALL SAINTS' DAY

8am Holy Communion: St Michael's B 9.15am Lay led Service: St Mary's U

10.30am Parish Eucharist and Sunday Club: St Andrew's H

10.30am Baptism: St Michael's AT

10.30am All Age Service: Blewbury Primary School

10.30am Parish Eucharist: All Saint's NM

10.30am Online Harvest Service 1pm Wedding: St Michael's B

3pm All Soul's Service: St John the Baptist SM

3.30pm Benefice All Souls' Service: St Andrew's H

5pm Organ Recital for Remembrance Sunday: St Andrew's H

6pm Service of the Word: St Andrew's H

3 Monday 8pm online Compline
4 Tuesday 8pm online Compline
5 Wednesday 10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H 8pm online Compline

6 Thursday 7pm Time for quiet reflection: Lady Chapel in St Michael's B

7 Friday 8pm online Compline 8pm online Compline

8 Saturday

9 + Sunday REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

10am Astons Remembrance Day Service:

All Saints' AU Followed by Act of Remembrance

at the War Memorial 10.45am

10.30am Online Remembrance Day Service

10.45am Remembrance Day Service: St Mary's U

10.45am Remembrance Day Service: SM Recreation Ground 10.50am RBL Remembrance Day Service: All Saints' NM 10.55am RBL Remembrance Day Service: St Michael's B 12noon Act of Remembrance: Lower Cross, East Hagbourne

6pm Remembrance Day Service: St Andrew's H

10 Monday 8pm online Compline 11 Tuesday 8pm online Compline

12 Weds 10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H 8pm online Compline

7.30pm Fellowship by the fire, Charity School House, Blewbury.

Continued on page 4 . . .



The Churn Benefice's Churches are:

St Andrew's Hagbourne (H), St Mary's Upton (U), St Michael's Blewbury (B), All Saints' Aston Upthorpe (AU), St Michael's Aston Tirrold (AT), St John the Baptist South Moreton (SM), All Saints' North Moreton (NM)

Prayer Focus:

Our worship, musicians, organists and choirs.

Churchwardens, fabric

and churchyards.



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, HAGBOURNE

The United Benefice of Blewbury, East and West Hagbourne and Upton together with Aston Tirrold, Aston Upthorpe, North Moreton and South Moreton.

Rector's Reflections I Vow to Thee, My Country

This month will see the observance of Remembrance Day. We will say the traditional prayers and sing some traditional hymns.



We shall wear our poppies with pride, and give thanks for the courage of the men and women who gave their lives for our country, especially those who died in the 1st and 2nd World Wars. And once again, we will commit ourselves to the pursuit of peace and amity between nations.

In terms of the hymns which accompany our acts of remembrance, I wonder if we will find ourselves singing "I vow to Thee, my Country"? Hymns often fall out of fashion, and some hymnbooks no longer include this hymn. Perhaps it is regarded as too old-fashioned. Perhaps it is seen to promote an unhealthy and narrow-minded patriotism. Or perhaps it is felt that few people nowadays could sing the opening lines with any degree of sincerity: "I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above, entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love"- really? Most of us are probably too cynical and selfish even to consider the possibility of "vowing" to our country the "service of my love".

And what of the second verse of this hymn, which writes of "another country", whose "fortress is a faithful heart", and whose "pride is suffering", whose ways are "ways of gentleness" and whose paths are the paths of peace? Can we really envision a world in which war and injustice are no more, a world in which peace and gentleness reign supreme?

Christians have traditionally referred to such a world as "the Kingdom of God"- a world in which human sinfulness and pride have been defeated, and all our relationships are governed by God's values – the values of love and peace, of justice and mercy. Some Christians have felt that it is up to us to make the Kingdom of God a reality.

But can we really bring war to an end? Can we really change human nature so that selfishness and injustice are put behind us? Can the nations of the world work together to solve our common problems justly and peaceably, without the need to revert to violence? Perhaps our greatest need today is for the courage to believe that a better world really is possible, and for a willingness to commit ourselves to making this vision a reality. *Father Jason*



Remembrance Sunday, 9th November 2025

There will be an Act of Remembrance and Laying of Wreaths at the Hagbourne War Memorial, Lower Cross, East Hagbourne at 12noon on Sunday, 9th November.

6pm - Remembrance Sunday Service at St Andrew's

Advent starts on Sunday 30th November!

Please join us for the **Benefice Advent Carol Service** at **St Michael's Blewbury at 4pm**. Led by the St Michael's choir, the Service will reflect our longing for the Light. As always there will be plenty of congregational singing. We look forward to welcoming you!



Church Calendar and Diary for NOVEMBER 2025 continued . . . Prayer Focus:

13 Thursday 8pm online Compline 14 Friday 8pm online Compline

15 Saturday

16 +Sunday SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

9am No Service at St Michael's AT 10.30am Parish Eucharist: St Michael's B 10.30am All Age Service: St Andrew's H

10.30am Online Benefice Service

4pm Service of the Word: All Saints' NM 6pm Service of the Word: St Andrew's H

17 Monday

18 Tuesday

19 Weds

10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H

20 Thursday

10am MIL Holy Communion: St Michael's R

21 Spm online Compline

22 Spm online Compline

23 Thursday

10am MIL Holy Communion: St Michael's R

25 Spm online Compline

26 Spm online Compline

20 Thursday 10am MU Holy Communion: St Michael's B 8pm online Compline 21 Friday 8pm online Compline

22 Saturday

23 +Sunday CHRIST THE KING

9.15am Parish Eucharist: St Mary's U 10.30am Parish Eucharist: St Michael's B 10.30am Online Benefice Service

4pm Service of the Word with Advent candle making: All Saints' NM Manager.

6pm Service of the Word: St Andrew's H

24 Monday 8pm online Compline
25 Tuesday 8pm online Compline
26 Weds 10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H 8pm online Compline

7.30am Fellowship by the fire: Charity School House, Blewbury

27 Thursday 8pm online Compline 28 Friday 8pm online Compline

29 Saturday 10am Christmas Tree Festival Draw for tree positions: St Andrew's H

30 +Sunday ADVENT SUNDAY

10.30am Baptism: St Michael's B 10.30am Online Benefice Service

4pm Benefice Advent Carol Service: St Michael's B

6pm St Andrew's Day Celebrations: St Andrew's H

DECEMBER

1 Monday S Andrew 8pm online Compline

How to contact the Churn Benefice:

BENEFICE OFFICE - 01235 850267 Churn Website: www.churnchurches.co.uk

The Benefice Operations Manager, Elaine de Ridder, is available from 9.00 am - 2.30pm Monday to

Friday, contact on 01235 850267 or 07434 686044 during office hours.

Bookings for Weddings, Baptisms etc. may be made by contacting the office via telephone or email: office@churnchurches.co.uk

Father Jason St John Nicolle - 01235 850267 - office@churnchurches.co.uk

Revd Louise Butler - 07837 009730 - revlouiseb@aol.com

Revd John Clarke - 01235 510073 - jphclarke@gmail.com

Revd Dr Mark Rhodes-Smith — 01235 850267 — mark.rhodes-smith@churnchurches.co.uk



Clergy and all who preach or lead.

PCC's all in

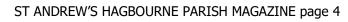
leadership and

Pastoral care

and visiting.

our Benefice

Operations





Free Organ Recital at St Andrew's, 5pm Sunday, 2nd November

As our next recital will be in the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday, a specially composed work "One in valour, one in sacrifice" will be performed in thanksgiving of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. We have a poignant connection to this Force in that a previous Vicar of St Andrew's Church had a son who served with the CEF. Charles Talbot Baker was a Lieutenant in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (49th Battalion), and died 29th September 1918, in France.



The programme will conclude with a medley of 2nd World War tunes.

Everyone welcome!

Thank You to all who donated lots of items for the Foodbank and to all who helped to decorate St Andrew's with flower displays, fruit and vegetables and groceries for the Harvest Festival. The colours were beautiful and helped to make the Church look very welcoming. The Sunday Club made some lovely artwork illustrating "the fruits of the spirit" during the Morning Service.

With Sympathy We send our heartfelt sympathies to all the family and friends of Michael "Mick" Roberts whose Funeral Service took place at St Andrew's on the 15th of October.



All Souls' Service St Andrew's Hagbourne, Sunday,2nd November, 3.30pm

All are very welcome at our Annual Service of Commemoration, which includes the lighting of candles and the reading out of names of loved ones we have lost. This year the service is at St Andrew's Hagbourne. Parking for the Service is available at the Village Hall in East Hagbourne. Anyone who would like to have a loved one remembered at this Service is welcome to send names to Elaine in the Benefice Office. Please do so by Thursday 30th October on 01235 850267

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. - Matthew 5 v 4

Baptism in the Benefice

5th October **Felix John Harrison** was baptised at All Saints' North Moreton.

May God's blessing of peace and joy be with him and protect him all of his days.



Funeral in the Benefice

15th October at St Andrew's Hagbourne **Michael "Mick" Roberts** aged 86. *May he rest in peace and rise in glory.*

Churchwardens chatter November starts with Linda's **Arts and Crafts Fair** to be held in Church on 1st of November. A great way to start buying your unique Christmas presents. This event is swiftly followed by the **All Souls' Service at St Andrew's**. It is at 3.30 on 2nd November and is always a very moving service. On this day, there will also be our monthly organ concert. This one will be mostly referring to the Canadian Services who supported us during the World War and some memorable songs of that time will also be played. This is always a pleasure to attend and hopefully we will see you there.

Of course, **Remembrance Day** will also be observed on Sunday, 9th November as we have traditionally done for many years. Don't forget to buy a poppy.

Then look out for the **Christmas Tree Festival!** Book your tree nice and early. We will also be celebrating **St Andrew's Day, our Patronal Festival at 6pm on Sunday 30th November**. We will soon be planning events for **2026** so if you have any event in mind which you would like to organise please let me know as soon as possible. It's never too early to book a date. It gives us great pleasure to have our Church used for village events. Jane and Jill.

Benefice Online Church Service . . . Please help spread the word about our

regular online Church Service! The technology is easy to master but Elaine is happy to assist with setting it up. If you haven't joined us recently, please note that your "GoToMeeting" software will need an update. The process is very straight forward but will take a little bit of extra time. **Every Sunday at 10.30 using this link: Computer, tablet, smartphone**

https://meet.goto.com/ChurnBenefice/sundayservice New user https://meet.goto.com/install Weekday evening Compline at 8.00pm for 10 minutes. Access via https://meet.goto.com/312446493

CHURCH ROTAS November 2025	2nd November All Saints' Day	16th November 2nd Sunday before Advent	General Notes: If unable to do duty, please let your organiser know or find a suitable replacement.
Readers	Daniel 7 vv1-3, 15-18 Daniel Dawson Ephesians 1 vv 11-end Helen Clayson	Malachi 4 vv1-2a Jeff Powell 2 Thessalonians 3 6-13 Justine Shepperson	Church Cleaning These areas are now being looked after: High Altar - Myra Lady Chapel - Amanda and Alison Welcome area - Jacqui
Intercessions	Celebrant	Celebrant	North Aisle – Jenny Kitchen - Marian Toilet – Jeff
Sidesmen	Robin Harries Jane Blond	Myra Hardiman Jacqui Mackenzie	Porches – Shirley & Trevor Thank you all
Coffee	Shirley Goss Helen Clayson	Justine Shepperson Jeff Powell	Christmas Tree Festival There will be a Beta Beard expositing at the and of
Flowers Lady Chapel	Joy Napper	Marian Powell	There will be a Rota Board appearing at the end of November for Tree Sitting during the Festival week of 5th to 13th December. Please consider putting
Flowers High Altar	Myra Hardiman	Shirley Goss	your name down for an hour or two. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE IN YOUR 2026 DIARIES!

Sunday February 15th, 2026 3pm at St Andrew's

A concert by PAPAGENA the International Quintet "LOVE LEGENDS and LULLABIES"

Folk, Classical, Medieval, contemporary A Cappella "Extraordinary Voices" BBC Radio 3

Monies raised for the Friends of St Andrew's - Ticket prices and how to book to follow.

I have seen this group twice – they are superb singers. Jeff Powell

Time to join in with the Tree Festival Fun

St Andrew's Christmas Tree Festival is coming very soon! Celebrating 15 years!

Note especially the following dates:

Festival Week – 5th to 13th December

Carols in the Close – 5th December

Carols in the Farmyard – 7th December

The Big Wassail – 12th December

and the Grand Christmas Raffle...

Extra this year – Wreath and Table Centrepiece Workshops – these will be on the week before the Festival. Please see details on page 9 – book early to save a place.



Be a Tree Angel and Dress a Tree in the Church 30 trees will be waiting for local groups and businesses to create their masterpieces. Why not reserve a tree and maybe follow this year's optional theme, **The Colours of Christmas**?

A Christmas Tree Festival at Your Own Front Door

Let's brighten the gloom and illuminate our villages. You can join in by placing one of our Festival Trees in your front gardens for everybody to enjoy. It's a real festive treat to wander around East and West Hagbourne and marvel at how everybody supports the Festival and its fundraising.

Friends of Hagbourne Pool This year the proceeds of the Christmas Tree Festival will be shared between Friends of Hagbourne Pool and St Andrew's Church. Let's help make a difference while enjoying the Christmas Tree Festival.



Please see page 18 for full details of the Friends of Hagbourne Pool appeal.

Come and join in! Order your tree(s) today!

The cost to sponsor a sustainably sourced tree is £27 for a 4ft tree, whether in the Church or for your own front garden. Please find the sign-up form on page 11.

Thank you to our generous sponsors:











Home Communion in the Benefice is available to anyone who is unable to get to Church through sickness or frailty, either at Christmas, for a short time or on a long term basis. If you, or anyone you know, would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the office 01235 850267 and Elaine will arrange it for you.



Tower Talk In early October Jill ran another of her training courses, this time it was Grandsire Triples. The course was well attended, and the team are really benefitting from the hourly courses once every couple of months. I am sure the methods will get more difficult as we progress.

We held our tower quarterly meeting on Tuesday 7th October following a shortened ringing practice. The meeting was well attended with lots to discuss re the future of the tower.

Ringer's Sunday took place on Sunday 26th October, the bells were rung for the Ringer's Evensong at 6pm. Many thanks to Fr Jason who took the Service which was followed by light refreshments.

Hopefully we will ring the bells half muffled on Remembrance Sunday and leave the muffles on for the practice on the Tuesday evening. It is a little bit different ringing bells half muffled, and it will give all of our ringers the chance to have a go.

Shirley Goss.

Birthdays: 2nd November - Alan Foster

Dates for the Diary: 9th November – Remembrance Sunday

HUGS - Hagbournes and Upton Group for Sustainability



Picture: Lars Karlsson

Joining In The world has recently lost Dame Jane Goodall, a ground-breaking scientist and passionate conservationist, and we can't all immediately fill her shoes or those of Sir David Attenborough, or our other natural world heroes. But we can each do our bit to help nature. Individually, we have different skills and interests and so together we can all be part of the solution. Nature has an incredible ability to bounce back, if we let it.

Both Dame Goodall and Sir Attenborough spent their lives recording and researching the natural world and its ongoing, dramatic decline since the end of the Second World War. We are one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world and we can see it here locally. How many insects splat on your windscreen when driving at night now? None? One maybe? When did you last see a hedgehog? How many swifts did you see or hear overhead this summer?

Here are some local ways to join in to support nature:

- **Leave** part of your garden for nature all year round, just one untidy corner can make a difference.
- **Join us** in our regular HUGS work parties, managing areas for biodiversity.
- Buy wildflowers or native trees from us to bring more life into your garden or onto your land.
- **Join in** some citizen science, whether that's the Big Garden Bird Watch, the Big Butterfly Count or the PondNet Spawn Survey to record when you first see frogspawn in winter or spring.
- **Lobby local politicians** to follow the 30 by 30 Goal the government signed up to. This is protecting 30% of land (and sea) by 2030 to support biodiversity. How much is that happening locally?

Do drop us an email for more info https://www.hugsustainability.org/

Hagbourne Barn Dance Club — an evening of Traditional English Dance is <u>usually</u> held on the third Friday of the month at the Hagbourne Village Hall at 8pm to 11pm. Please bring your own mug and plate. **Next session: 21st November.**

Your Village Hall

The Annual General Meeting of Hagbourne Village Hall will be held on Monday 17th November at 7:30pm in the Small Hall.

Please come along and:

- hear about the past (challenging!) year
- and plans for the future

hagbournevh@gmail.com

Registered Charity No 900090



Hagbourne Garden Club will be meeting on Thursday,

27th November at the Pavilion. Doors will open for refreshments at 7pm. The talk will start at 7.30pm. The topic this month is: **My Greenhouse Year** a talk by Gillian Taylor covering aspects of greenhouse design, overwintering tender plants, propagation, production of flowers and vegetables and where to visit interesting greenhouses, all from a personal perspective.

Wine and minced pies will be served.

Visitors most welcome at £5 per person. For further information call Sally on 01235 352275



Sunday Club

In the Parish Room, 10.30am St Andrew's

On the first Sunday of the month joining parents in the Church Service later.
Bible stories, circle time, drawing, colouring, painting, crafts and more. Ages 4 - 11.
Encourages children to interact with each other and adults, make friends, be creative.
A gentle introduction to Christian values.

Next date: Sunday 2nd November ALL WELCOME





East Hagbourne Community Shop

For over 20 years, East Hagbourne Community Shop has been proudly run entirely by volunteers. We are seeking new Committee members and volunteers to help keep it going and growing!

To learn how you can help in 1 or 2 hours a month:

email Alice at alice.w.smith@gmail.com or easthagbourneshop@gmail.com, or pop in and chat with the Volunteer on duty.

Visit us on FB or on the village website at: easthagbourne.net/our-village/shop-post-office/

NOVEMBER BUSINESS HOURS:

POST OFFICE: Mon to Sat 9am – 12:30pm; Mon and Thurs afternoons 1:15pm – 4:30pm; CLOSED TUESDAYS

SHOP: Mon and Thurs 9am - 4:30pm; Tue/Wed/Fri 9am - 4pm; Sat 9am - 12:30pm;

Thursdays: Home-made cakes; Saturdays: Artisanal bakery goods

Arts & Crafts Show, St Andrew's, 1st November Looking forward to seeing you at the annual Arts and Crafts show, where we'll bring along the best of our locally-crafted goods. Stop by for a chat and tell us what you'd like to see in your Community Shop!

Save the date for our ANNUAL CHRISTMAS STALL 9am - 12:00

Saturday 13th Dec Join us for free mulled wine or juice and minced pies at our festive annual Christmas Bakery Stall while you browse Heritage breads, savouries, pastries & Christmas treats. Select thoughtful gifts from organic guest soaps, children's books and handcrafted pencil cases, adorable knit characters (concealing a Terry's Chocolate Orange), festive homemade cakes, gingerbread men or even a book of Treefest Raffle tickets, and wrap it all up in our Village tea towel or jute shopper for memorable – and sustainable – gifting! Don't forget local artist-designed cards! Choose from the exclusive Shop designs or Linda Benton's latest (£3 for 5); or pick a cozy card from Lorraine Drewe or Skillipigs (£2.50 each).

Survey Says...Thank You!! New Products in Stock! Our

thanks to the nearly 100 customers responding to our Shop survey through September, regarding what you most value, and also suggestions on how to improve the Shop experience. Most valued aspects: convenience, local products and the friendliness of our Shop volunteers - we agree, they are our best asset! Top Three recommendations included 1) declutter our layout to make things easier to find; 2) a wider range of new products; and 3) more local products. Sally Dance, Pam Hamer and others have done a 'smashing' job of opening up the space. We now feature a range of non-dairy milks, more 'free-from' gluten-free snacks and treats, and a wider selection of pantry items such as minced garlic or ginger, and sodas. We are actively seeking out local makers to complement our local produce, honey, eggs, bakery stock, homemade cakes, Calnan's meats and artists cards. This month, try fresh-pressed King's Piece Pear Juice from Harwell while supplies last! Every pence spent in the Community Shop helps fund PO and Shop expenses, keeping our neighbourhood amenities available to all – thank you!

Thursday Cake Day! Our delectable homemade cake selections change weekly. Who needs a reason? Be sure to come early - they don't last long!

Heritage Bakery available each Saturday Pre-order artisanal breads, savouries and pastries by 4pm Wednesday for collection the following Saturday – or swing by Saturday at 9 and take your chances with our changing weekly selection! Pre-order in Shop or by email to easthagbourneshop@gmail.com. Products and allergen details in Shop or at easthagbourne.net.











St Andrew's Church, Hagbourne



TreeFest 2025

5-13 December

CHURCH & VILLAGE TREE ORDER FORM

Thank you for taking part in this year's St Andrew's TreeFest in aid of Friends of Hagbourne Pool and St Andrew's Church.

CHURCH Trees: Please complete & return the slip below to **Rosey Gardiner** at Rowan, York Road, West Hagbourne OX11 0NG or email it to the4gardiners@btinternet.com by <u>Thursday</u> 27th November 2025.

VILLAGE Trees: Please complete & return the slip below to **Sarah Wright** at 1 Church Close, East Hagbourne OX11 9LP or email it to sarahtreefest@gmail.com by <u>Thursday 27th November 2025.</u>

ALL TREES ARE £27 for a 4ft live Norwegian Spruce. Please note - your tree order is not confirmed until payment is received, thank you.

Church trees will be in place & available to decorate from 9am-5pm on Thursday 4th December and 9-3pm on Friday 5th December. Optional theme is "The Colours of Christmas"

Village trees for front gardens will be available for collection from The Pavilion in East Hagbourne on Tuesday 2nd December from 2pm-6pm.

Please complete section/s applicable to you & return to relevant person (see above).

If you would like a tree in the church AND a village tree just fill in one form and send to either Sarah or Rosey.

All trees are £27.00

on the name card next to your tree in church:				
VILLAGE TREES: qua		of Tree:		
		Tel:		
EIIIdII:				

BACs: Account Name: HAGBOURNE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Account Number: 39110863. Sort Code: 30 98 97. *Please use your name or organization as a reference*. Alternatively enclose cash/cheque with this form & drop at relevant address. Cheques are payable to: **HAGBOURNE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

Arts and Crafts Fair

St Andrew's Church, East Hagbourne

Saturday, 1st November 2025, 10:30 to 4:30

- Meet local crafts people, artists and writers.
- Free admission
- Refreshments available all day, (proceeds in support of The Friends of St Andrew's)
- Ample parking at the Village Hall



Payments by cash or cheque please (due to limited internet signal)

Further information: Linda Benton, 01235 817891, Linda.Benton@live.co.uk

HAMS... ACT 1

Hams has launched its new season of 'Process and Play.'

We started with a masterclass on puppetry from Tom Mackriell who taught us about the '4 principles of puppetry' which we then applied to our own Blue Peter style newspaper people-puppets. Further workshops (run by HAMS members) and masterclasses (with local experts) exploring a broad range of dramatic techniques and materials are going to take us right through to our Showcase Evening on **Friday 27th and Saturday 28th March** when we will be inviting you to join our social evening and be entertained with a demonstration of things we have been learning.



We are thrilled to announce that HAMS are wonderfully supported in our endeavours this year by a small Performing Arts Grant from Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Council. This grant means that we are able to fund all of our external masterclasses without charging for attendance!

We warmly welcome new and existing members to come and join in and we're actively looking to find the people who can help us build HAMS for the future.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in getting involved in acting, backstage or technical roles, please get in touch or come along to the village hall on Thursdays (excepting 13th November which is a planned theatre trip).

To express an interest in HAMS and join the mailing list, drop us a line at info@thehams.co.uk - or follow the QR code.

Don't forget to buy your Christmas Tree Festival Raffle Tickets. Tickets will soon be available; there will be some to buy at the Community Shop and at all the Festival events.

TABLE TENNIS at the Hagbourne Pavilion

Join our friendly table-tennis groups at the Pavilion at the Recreation Ground for exercise and fun: **Tuesday mornings** 10am to 12noon, £3 per session. All ages, skills, welcome; bats available. New players would be most welcome. Session fee waived for introductory session.

More info from Julian 01235 813599 jgallop@freeuk.com and Anthony 01235 511920 <u>aannanjones@gmail.com</u>

Wednesday evenings 7:30-9:30pm - contact Adrian Coles 07711350011adrian.coles@gmail.com

HAGBOURNE BOWLS CLUB

Hagbourne Bowling Green is one of the most special places to play in the whole county.

We have an active and growing membership and in particular, our lady players have been making great progress in local leagues and friendlies, however, more players of any level are always needed. Whatever your bowls experience; from beginner to Commonwealth Champion (and anything in between), you'll find a warm welcome and many new friends at Hagbourne Bowls Club. For more info please contact our Ladies Captain: Sandy Budd on 07477 814801 or sandybudd@sky.com

FOOTBALL in East Hagbourne: Hagbourne United FC plays regularly at East Hagbourne at the Recreation Ground and welcomes new men and youth players.

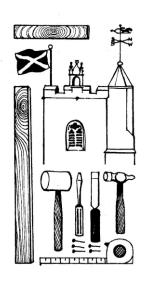
Contacts: John Symonds 07831 714076 jesymonds29@gmail.com or Keith Davies 07810 504155 keith_davies4@hotmail.co.uk

Midweek Communion Everyone welcome to the Midweek Communion at **St Andrew's**, **Hagbourne**, **every Wednesday at 10am**. This is a said Communion Service without hymns and the opportunity to stay for a coffee afterwards and a chat.

This is a popular Service - all welcome.

All welcome to join us for coffee and a chat after the Service at about 10.45am

Oxfordshire Homeless — Advent collection The hamper for gifts for Oxfordshire Homeless will be placed in St Andrew's on Advent Sunday, 30th November. Please see page 16 for details of what to donate.







Quiz at the Fleur Monday 24th November 2025, 7:30pm

Teams up to 6 people, £5 per person (numbers of teams limited)

Raffle

Meals available before the quiz. Booking required. Contact the Fleur de Lys to enter: 01235 813247

info@thefleurdelyspub.co.uk

Proceeds to the Friends of St Andrew's. We look after the Hagbourne Church building.

Comments from the East Hagbourne Parish Council Chairman

Strange happenings on FP 2 FP 2 is the path that is effectively a continuation of Harwood Road by the side of Butts Piece. A fairly solid fence was erected on the grass verge along this path without notification to or approval from any of the Parish, District or County Councils. Plenty of rumours, but the person or people behind this construction still remain anonymous and not contactable. However, the County Council have fixed notices to the effect that the fencing and gate constitute an obstruction of the public highway since FP 2 has a legally recorded width of 30 feet. If OCC are not contacted by the person or people responsible for the construction before 22nd November, then OCC can take action to remove the fence and gate.

Oxford City Temporary Congestion Charge Oxfordshire County Council have from the 29th October introduced a temporary congestion charge at six locations in Oxford City. Temporary is defined until Botley Road reopens with the current estimate being August 2026. The good news is that you can use the Redbridge Park and Ride to avoid the congestion charge. Parking there costs £2.50 and bus journeys into town will now be free for up to 2 adults and three children. If you do need to drive into Oxford then there are many ways of getting a free permit and anyone living in Oxfordshire can get one for 12 months that allows 25 days of free entry. You should go to the website: https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-travel and click on Apply for a Permit. The process seems surprisingly easy although I confess not to have applied yet.

Grants from our District and County Councillors There are wide ranging grants available from our district councillors (Crispin Topping and Anne-Marie Simpson) and from our County Councillor (Johnny Hope-Smith). Each District Councillor has a grant budget of £7,500 to award to projects and activities that offer community benefits in their ward area. They are particularly keen to fund projects of greatest impact for residents, such as activities that protect and restore our natural world, promote action on the climate emergency, and support thriving, healthy and inclusive communities. Applications can be made by any local 'not for profit' organisation including not for profit pre-schools and PTAs for local authority run schools or Academies who can apply for non-statutory elements of the education programme. Further information and applications can be made via www.southoxon.gov.uk/grants and going to the County Community Grant Scheme. A long list of possible projects can be found by clicking on Guidelines 2025/26. The closing date for applications is 5th December 2025.

Our County Councillor has £10,000 to support community projects. This funding is designed to help deliver local priorities and strengthen community initiatives. Community groups, and local organisations are encouraged to apply for funding to support projects that benefit residents. Examples might include improvements to community facilities, local environmental initiatives, and activities that promote wellbeing or inclusion. Smaller-scale projects are especially encouraged. Applications can be made at any time but the deadline for applications is 30th November 2026 (and the 2026 is not a typo!) For more information or to apply, visit the Councillor Priority Fund page. https://service.oxfordshire.gov.uk/councillorpriorityfund

Parish Surgeries The next parish surgery will be in the Fleur de Lys on Friday 14th November from 5.00 to 6.30 pm. As always, feel free to contact me (iain.duff@easthagbourne.net), the clerk or any other councillor should you have urgent concerns.

Parish Council meetings The next meeting of East Hagbourne Parish Council will be held in the Pavilion in the Recreation Ground starting at 7.30pm on Thursday 13th November. Members of the public are welcome to join the meeting and the agenda is posted on village notice boards and the village web pages at least three clear days before the meeting. Although I often ask the clerk or a council member to review parts of this page, and I am grateful for any improvements, this is not a formal or even approved article from the Parish Council. I accept full responsibility for any errors or omissions and do please alert me to any you find! **Iain Duff.**



NEWSLETTER No.278 - November 2025

CONTACT DETAILS:

Parish Clerk, Laura Lloyd Telephone: 07891 551 851

Email: easthagbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com



COMMUNITY GRANTS AVAILABLE

SODC's Councillor Community Grant and OCC's Councillor Priority Fund are both currently open for applications, please see the Chairman's letter on page 14 for further information.

SODC's Food & Warmth Grant Scheme is also available to local organisations and food network partners to help them continue to provide vital food and warmth support for our residents. The closing date for applications is 6th November. Please visit https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/food-and-warmth-grant-scheme-2025-2026-now-open/



CHAIRMAN'S SURGERY – FRIDAY 14th NOVEMBER

lain Duff will be at the Fleur de Lys on Friday 14th November from 5.00 to 6.30pm to welcome any residents with concerns or queries relating to matters in the parish.



ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE:

SOFEA Didcot Community Larder is open on Thursdays see here for information. **Didcot Emergency Foodbank** is open at Didcot Baptist Church on Tuesdays and Fridays, see here for information

 $\textbf{Steps Baby Bank} \text{ at Didcot Baptist Church on Tuesdays and Fridays, see } \underline{\text{here}} \text{ for information.}$

Cost Of Living Crisis An SODC page with a range of advice and support can be found here

The Community Hub can assist with isolation and financial help. Details can be found <u>here</u> **Warm Welcome Space** at Didcot Library, see further info <u>here</u> for opening times & other venues.

Hagbourne Charities - hagbourne.charities@gmail.com or 01235 814024

East and West Hagbourne Fund – Contact David Stainthorp on 07711 802887 or email hagbournevillagefund@gmail.com

East Hagbourne (Coronavirus) Community Support Group -

easthagbournecovid19@gmail.com or 07568 395228



DEFIBRILLATORS The village defibrillators are available 24/7 at the following locations:

Outside the Village Shop at 114 New Road

Hagbourne Village Hall (next to the main entrance)

Hagbourne Bowls Club on The Croft (defibrillator is wall mounted outside the gate)

In an emergency, call 999 - they will give you the access code.



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL





USEFUL INFORMATION LINKS:

https://www.fixmystreet.com/ for reporting a wide variety of issues from potholes to fly tipping.
https://publicrightsofway.oxfordshire.gov.uk/standardmap.aspx
can be used to report an issue with a countryside path or public right of way.

https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/recycling-rubbish-and-waste for information on waste services and reporting missed bin collections.

Get the **Binzone** app on your mobile to receive notifications of bin services in East Hagbourne. https://one.network/ for checking roadworks in the area.

Planning applications received since the last newsletter:

P25/S3138/HH and P25/S3141/LB 2 Church Close, East Hagbourne - Demolition of existing outbuilding. Erection of new pool house and construction of below ground swimming pool.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 13th November 2025 at The Pavilion, Gt Mead

All Council meetings are open to the public and we welcome your participation. Agendas and Minutes of previous meetings are published at www.easthagbourne.net **Ladies Thirsty Thursday LTT** meets on the third Thursday of each month at The Fleur at 7.30pm for a friendly drink and an opportunity to meet other ladies in the village. Everyone welcome – come along to the next gathering on **Thursday 20th November**.

Tai Chi Classes I am running a Tai Chi class in West Hagbourne, it is small and personal, and we have a first-class teacher with 30 years' experience, it is for health and mobility. Any ages welcome. It is on a Monday afternoon from 3.45 – 4.45pm and runs continuously except for the teacher's holiday and Bank Holidays. Payment is in 6 weeks blocks, individual classes can be taken if unable to make all six, at a slightly higher cost. All booked in advance. Maximum in class 12 and I have a few spaces spare. For further details please contact Sue Lay on 07900010367 – text or WhatsApp.

Wednesday Sewing Class Places available in the Wednesday Sewing Class for complete beginners through to the more experienced sewer. The class is from 12:30 to 3:30 in Hagbourne Village Hall. Please contact sue.somani@sky.com 07748 771188



Homeless Oxfordshire are again running their Christmas appeal for donations that can become gifts for their homeless clients. This year, they aim to create personal care boxes, and so need . . .

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Shower Gel
- Liquid Handwash
- Shampoo

- New Towels
- New Underwear
- New socks
- Toilet Rolls
- Sanitary Items

Plus, NEW clothes (jogging bottoms, hoodies, sweatshirts) and (non-perishable) food are always welcome and needed. Sorry, we can't accept second-hand clothes or bulky items.

PLEASE PLACE YOUR ITEMS IN THE BASKET IN ST ANDREW'S AND WE WILL TAKE THEM TO O'HANLON HOUSE IN OXFORD IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS.

Thank you for your kind generosity

FROM THE HAGBOURNE ACTION GROUP

Homeless Oxfordshire is the county's largest not-for-profit provider of accommodation for people experiencing homelessness throughout Oxfordshire. They also provide a wide range of specialist support services beyond bricks and mortar.

The residents are mothers, brothers, aunties, cousins. They are artists, cooks, teachers, veterans. Their lives have been shaped by trauma and disadvantage, and **Homeless Oxfordshire** offers an open door when they need it most and support to help people rebuild their lives.

Jazz in the Hagbournes The Jazz Jam sessions at the Fleur celebrated the one year anniversary of these Community events, with a great evening of Jazz music and singing. Thanks to all those who have made it so successful.

The next Jam at The Fleur is on 12th November at 8pm. As a heads up, the next Ronnie Scott Allstars Sunday, at the Fleur, will be on 21st June, 2026. More details to follow.

Useful Bus Information ...

Handy Bus service on Saturday mornings from East Hagbourne to Didcot . . .There is a useful **94 Bus Service** on **Saturday mornings** that starts at the Lower Cross, War Memorial, East Hagbourne at 8.45am for Didcot Orchard Centre and Didcot Station.

Bus service to the Churchill, Nuffield and Warneford Hospitals
The bus to catch for any of these hospitals from the centre of Oxford is number 15 which
is every 1/4 hour during the day, taking 10-12 minutes, longer at busy times.

You can catch it near the entrance to the Covered Market or near Queen's Lane. Those stops work whether you're connecting from Didcot with the Thames Travel X32 or, quicker but more walking, using the train from Didcot. The set down points are announced on the bus; for the Warneford, Warneford Road; for the Churchill, Roosevelt Drive; for the Nuffield, the stop is further on, called Lime Walk, and is actually in Old Road near the Old Road entrance to the hospital. **The website for the 15** is https://www.oxfordbus.co.uk/services/OXBC/15, where you can also find a useful bus map and even live information. When using the X32 to Oxford, it's also possible to connect with the 15 near the Police Station, generally fewer people trying to get on at once.

The X32 Service from Cockcroft Road Didcot to the JR Hospital is now every 20 minutes.

Didcot Emergency Foodbank – food donations urgently needed.

A recent report shows that there has been a 56% increase in the number of food parcels provided to families with children in the South East over five years. Locally we've seen a significant drop in donations to the foodbank. If you are able to donate, these are some of the items most needed: Tins of meat, fish, vegetables, soup, fruit, puddings; Jars of pasta sauces, jam, peanut butter, coffee (small); Packets of pasta, rice, packets of dried potato, breakfast cereals, biscuits, treats, tea, hot chocolate; Cartons of long-life milk and long-life juice; Toiletries, toilet rolls and clothes-wash items. NO alcohol, razors, medicines or homemade preserves.

There is a collection point at Sainsbury's in Didcot. Alternatively, you can make a financial donation which can be on a one-off or regular basis. This can be done by visiting:

https://didcotbaptist.churchsuite.com/donate/ and "Foodbank" as your option adding gift aid if you are able to.
All donations are gratefully appreciated.

If you need to use the Foodbank you can leave a message on the Baptist Church Office answering machine on 01235 813 187 or you can email the Foodbank: foodbank@didcotbaptist.org.uk or use the contact form on the website

Hagbourne Bridge Club If you can play bridge but haven't done so for a while – give

us a go! If you have never learnt to play bridge but would like to give it a try, why not come and see us? We meet every Thursday in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. We have a break around 8.30pm for light refreshments and usually finish playing cards by 10pm. It will cost you £3. We look forward to seeing you. We are: Jill Garlick – 07873431144 hjgarlick@gmail.com & Shirley Goss – 815605 shirley.goss@btinternet.com



Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue is an award-winning wildlife charity that rescues, cares for and rehabilitates sick, injured, and orphaned wild animals throughout Oxfordshire and Berkshire. Our main objective is to preserve life where it is humanely possible to do so, utilising both our wildlife casualty centre located in Blewbury, and our wildlife ambulance service.

As a small charity, our work is funded entirely by the kindness and generosity of donations made by members of the public. If you can help us, please consider setting up a small monthly donation to help fund our operations. With your help, we can continue to help deliver sick and injured wildlife the care and attention they so rightfully deserve. **www.oxfordshirewildliferescue@gmail.com**



FRIENDS OF HAGBOURNE POOL

Our lovely pool has been an integral part of Hagbourne CE Primary School since the 1970s, helping children develop water safety skills, build confidence, and stay active.

We're sure many readers of the Parish Magazine will have fond memories of the pool. Perhaps you were part of the original working party who helped dig the ground all those years ago? Or maybe you, your children, or your grandchildren were taught to swim there. Currently, all Hagbourne pupils are fortunate to swim for two terms each year, from Reception through to Year 6.

The pool is also used by children from other local schools, including Blewbury and Chilton, and benefits the wider community through after-school and weekend swim sessions, baby and toddler classes, lifesaving training, local groups like Cubs and Young Farmers, and free lessons for eligible children through the YouMove initiative.

Friends of Hagbourne Pool is a newly registered charity (No. 1213633) set up to support and enhance the swimming provision at Hagbourne School.

We're currently fundraising for:

- Replacement of the pool liner, skimmers, and pool surround.
- Upgrading the outdated heating and filtration systems to improve efficiency and sustainability.

The total cost is estimated at £34,000. Thanks to existing funds, grants, and generous pledges, we're already over halfway there. Pupils have raised over £4,000 through two themed fundraising challenges: HMS Hagbourne (a pirate adventure) last Summer, and this year's Swimming Pool Time Machine challenge, celebrating the 150 year anniversary of the school. We hope their involvement gives the children a lasting sense of pride and achievement.

Our goal is to complete the essential refurbishment this winter, during the pool's closure period. Restoring the pool will ensure it remains a vibrant, inclusive space for learning, fun, and community use for years to come. With school swimming provision under pressure nationally, keeping Hagbourne's pool open helps protect access for all—regardless of background.

You can support us today:

Or contact us: friendsofhagbournepool@gmail.com

Together, we can secure the future of our much-loved pool!

Friends of Hagbourne Pool will be the charity supported by St Andrew's Christmas Tree Festival this year.



First Steps Baby Bank supports families in need with free essential baby items. Through a simple referral they support families with all sorts of essential items for their little ones, including clothes and coats, moses baskets, blankets and sleeping bags as well as nappies, toiletries, bottles, food and formula. We also support mums with essential hygiene items.

They are continuing to spread the word about what they do, to ensure that anyone in need of support is aware we are here. Please follow them on Facebook - First Steps Baby Bank - to keep up to date with what they are doing and what items we are most in need of.

You can also find out more on the website www.firststepsbabybank.co.uk.

Didcot and District U3A If you have recently retired or a semi-retired individual living in Didcot or surrounding area and looking for new interests whilst making new friendships, then look no further and consider joining the local U3A. New members are always warmly welcome (first visit is 'free to see') and chat over tea and biscuits at the monthly meetings held on the third Tuesday of every month for this nationwide self-help teaching and learning organisation in the Didcot Civic Hall, meetings start 2:30 pm. **The next meeting on 18th November is "Good Hare Days" by nature photographer, David Bailey.**

Local Bus Service 94 and 94A between Didcot, East and West Hagbourne, Upton via Blewbury, Aston Upthorpe and South and North Moreton.



To look up timetables for all bus services please visit: www.oxfordbus.co.uk
There are some printed timetables in the Community Shop. Buses from the Orchard Centre, Didcot, go to Wallingford, Henley, Wantage, Abingdon and Newbury.

Thames Travel bus service to Oxford and the JR Hospital from Didcot – X32

The X32 service starts at Cockcroft Road, Didcot, which might be a convenient point for some people to catch it - every 20 minutes. It then goes to GWP South and down Wantage Road, past Didcot Hospital, to the Orchard Centre, Station, and on to Oxford and the JR. Please see page 17 for useful details on how to get to the various Oxford Hospitals via public transport.

Please use our local 94 and 94A bus to help keep the Service going.

DECEMBER 2025 PARISH MAGAZINE



Please let us have copy for the December 2025 parish magazine by **Monday 17th November to magtemp5@gmail.com**Thank you, the magazine committee.

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FRENCH BEANIES, East Hagbourne French Beanies is a language learning After School Club for primary school children based in East Hagbourne. Have lots of fun, meet new friends, enjoy games, chat, singing, role play, arts, crafts, French foodie treats and much more. All in small groups of max 6 children. Established 10+ years. *First lesson is free* – come and join the French fun! Contact Sarah Wright for more info: sarah@frenchbeanies.co.uk www.frenchbeanies.co.uk

Music - Brass Band

BLEWBURY BRASS BAND Available for bookings for local fetes & events.

Band Room available for Hire £8 per hour (min 2hrs). Large practice room. Toilet, but no kitchen or storage facilities. Suitable for pop groups, theatrical rehearsals, group meetings etc. **New band members of all ages and abilities welcome.** Instruments available. Learner Band Rehearsals: Monday 5.45 to 6.30pm Main Band Rehearsals: Wednesdays 7.30 to 9.30pm

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