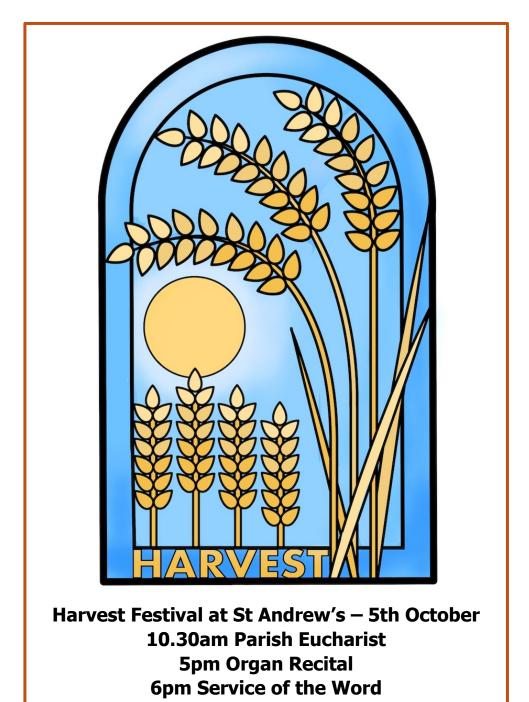
St Andrew's Hagbourne

PARISH MAGAZINE

OCTOBER 2025



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 OCTOBER 2025

The Prayer Intentions in October are for all who live in Blewbury.

Prayer Focus:

Our ministry to

Those recently

baptism visitors.

baptised and

children.

1 Wednesday
 2 Thursday
 3 Friday
 10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H
 8pm online Compline
 8pm online Compline
 8pm online Compline
 8pm online Compline

4 Saturday

5 + Sunday SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY - **HARVEST FESTIVAL** *Outreach and*

8am NO Holy Communion in Blewbury due to church closure Parish magazines.

9.15am Lay led Service: St Mary's U 10.30am Harvest Festival: St Andrew's H 10.30am Harvest Festival: St Michaels's AT

10.30am All Age Service: Blewbury Primary School

10.30am Online Harvest Service 1pm Baptism: All Saints' NM 5pm Organ Recital: St Andrew's H 6pm Service of the Word: St Andrew's H

6 Monday 8pm online Compline 7 Tuesday 8pm online Compline 8 Wednesday 10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H 8pm online Compline

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

9 Thursday 8pm online Compline 10 Friday 8pm online Compline

11 Saturday

12 + Sunday SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.15am Parish Eucharist: St Mary's Upton 10.30am Taizé Service: St Mary's Upton

10.30am Parish Eucharist and Harvest Festival: St John the Baptist: SM

10.30am Online Benefice Service

11.30am Harvest Festival: All Saints' NM 6pm Service of the Word: St Andrew's H

13 Monday
14 Tuesday
15 Weds
10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H
16 Thursday
17 Friday
18 Saturday
8pm online Compline

19 +Sunday EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9am Parish Eucharist: St Michael's AT 10.30am Parish Eucharist: Blewbury Primary School

10.30am All Age Service celebrating Charles Darwin: St Andrew's H

10.30am Online Benefice Service 3pm Harvest Festival: St Mary's U 4pm Parish Service: All Saints' NM

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

Continued on page 4 . . .



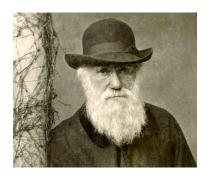
The Churn Benefice's Churches are:

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)



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 Are you interested in Charles Darwin?

I wonder if you have ever wanted to find out more about the life of Charles Darwin, and about the science of Evolution? Well, here is your opportunity! As part our commitment to science, our churches will be holding a celebration of the life and work of Charles Darwin, at **St Andrew's East Hagbourne on Sunday 19th October**.

This will take place in both our Morning Service (10.30am) and our Evening Service (6pm) – do come along to which ever suits you best.

The talks are designed for a general audience, and assume no specialist scientific knowledge. The talks also make no assumptions about religious belief – they are accessible to people of all faiths and none. You don't have to believe in God to come along. And, rest assured, they are not a hidden attempt to try and "convert" people to Christianity. The aim is to celebrate science. So as well as an occasion to celebrate the life and work of Charles Darwin, we will be looking more generally at the science of Evolution, and some of the key developments in this field over the last 150 years or so.

Some people feel or fear that there is a tension or even a contradiction between the science of Evolution and what Christians have traditionally believed about the origin of life and about what it means to be a Human Being made in the image of God. But in fact there is no necessary tension between the Chrisitan faith and the science of Evolution. It is perfectly possible to believe in Jesus Christ and also to believe in the science of Evolution.

And I should add that although I have referred to the "science of Evolution", Evolution is itself a complex area of study with many different approaches and a variety of different theories. There are many different ways of understanding what is meant by "the science of Evolution", and the subject has been continually developing as a scientific discipline since at least the 18th Century. Charles Darwin is a key figure in its development, but there are lots of other scientists who have made significant contributions to the subject.

Interested? Well, do come along on Sunday 19th October to learn more. You will be very welcome! Father Jason



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



Remembrance List

All are very welcome at our annual Service of Commemoration which includes the lighting of commemorative candles and reading out names of loved ones we have lost.

Anyone who would like to have a loved one remembered at this Service is welcome to send names to Elaine in the Benefice Office or add the names to the lists in the Churches.

Church Calendar and Diary for OCTOBER 2025 continued . . . **Prayer Focus:**

20 Monday 8pm online Compline 21 Tuesday 8pm online Compline 22 Weds

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

7.30pm Fellowship by the Fire, Charity School House, Blewbury

8pm online Compline 23 Thursday 24 Friday 8pm online Compline

25 Saturday

26 +Sunday BIBLE SUNDAY

9.15am Parish Eucharist: St Mary's U

10.30am Parish Eucharist: Blewbury Primary School

10.30am Online Benefice Service 4pm Parish Service: All Saints' NM

6pm Ringers Sunday Service followed by refreshments: St Andrew's H

8pm online Compline 27 Monday

8pm online Compline 28 Tuesday

8pm online Compline 29 Weds 10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H

8pm online Compline 30 Thursday 8pm online Compline 31 Friday

NOVEMBER

10.30 - 4.30 Arts and Crafts Fair: St Andrew's H 1 Saturday

2 + Sunday ALL SAINTS' DAY

8am Holy Communion: St Michael's B 9.15am Lay led Service: St Mary's U 10.15am Baptism: St Michael's AT

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

10.30am All Age Service: St Michael's B 10.30am Parish Eucharist: All Saints' NM

10.30am Online Benefice Service 1pm Wedding: St Michael's Blewbury

3pm All Souls Service: St John the Baptist SM 3.30pm Benefice All Souls Service: St Andrew's H

5pm Organ Recital: St Andrew's H 6pm Service of the Word: St Andrew's H

Our worship, musicians, organists and choirs.

Our youth group

and teenagers.

BIBLE (

БІБЛІЯ

Holy Bible БІБЛІЯ

БІБЛІЯ

St Michael's Blewbury closed during October Due to essential maintenance work on this Grade 1 listed building, Blewbury Church will be closed during October. However Services will continue to be held in Blewbury School except for the Taizé Service which will be in Upton.

How to contact the Churn Benefice:

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

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

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook:

Look for @churnchurches on Instagram and Churn-Benefice on Facebook



Harvest Festival at St Andrew's

Harvest Festival is on Sunday 5th October 10.30am.

It will be lovely to see the glorious colours of late summer and autumn filling the Church.



There will be a Bring and Share Lunch after the Service.

There will also be an Organ Recital at 5pm and a Service of the Word at 6pm.

Come along and enjoy the decorated Church.

Dear Flower Arrangers and Decorators, Please do come along so that we can all get together on the Saturday morning, 4th October to place some beautiful arrangements ready for the celebration of thanksgiving for all good gifts around us at this traditional Harvest Festival Service time.

Some lovely produce to fill the church would always be good if you have any. It has been a poor year for some things with the heat and dry conditions, but some things have grown well.

If a different day other than the Saturday suits you better, that is fine. We look forward to seeing the seasonal colours once more. Thank you, Helen Clayson



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

Home Communion is available to anyone who is unable to get to Church through sickness or frailty, either 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.

Baptisms in the Benefice

14th September **Adaline Abbie Helen Thomas** and **Frank Tommy Jack Thomas** were baptised at St Andrew's Hagbourne.

May God's blessing of peace and joy be with them and protect them all of their days.

Wedding in the Benefice

19th September **Thomas Huxtable** and **Megan Angus** were married at St John the Baptist, South Moreton.

We pray for God's blessing on them as they continue to build their lives together.



Ashes Interments in Hagbourne

9th September **Martin Wickens**, aged 64 15th September **Ann Waldron**, aged 86 *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*





Tower Talk We are now into Autumn and the evenings are drawing in, the clocks go back soon. On Saturday 4th October Jill is running another of her training sessions from 10:00-11:00. This time it is on ringing and calling short touches of Grandsire Double and Triples.

A few events in Church before Christmas including the Harvest Festival Thanksgiving on 5th October, Ringer's Sunday on 26th October, Remembrance Sunday on 9th November and then The Christmas Tree Festival. The next quarterly meeting of HSCR will take place on Tuesday 7th October following a shorter ringing practice.

Sunday 26th October is **"Ringer's Sunday"** and there will be a special Evensong at 6pm to celebrate this special day. Everyone is welcome to join us for this lovely Service, followed by light refreshments.

Shirley Goss

Birthdays: None in the Tower this month to the best of my knowledge.

Dates for your diary – Sunday 5th October – Harvest Festival

Tuesday 7th October - Tower Quarterly Meeting Sunday 26th October "Ringer's Sunday"



Free Organ Recital at St Andrew's, 5pm Sunday, 5th October

We look forward to Mo Windsor playing at our next Organ Recital. It is Harvest Festival so watch out for some seasonal musical items on nature, harvest and creationtide from Mo.

Come along and enjoy some great music amongst the Harvest flowers and decorations.

Churchwardens chatter It's October already! Harvest Festival time. We are hoping to have a Bring and Share Lunch after the Service so please come and bring a plate of tasty food for us to feast on. It's 5th October in case you have forgotten.

Our **Pet Service** was once again a great success. Thank you so much Jane for continuing to be such a great host and reminding us to be thankful for all therapy dogs.

We are hoping to have a special **St Andrew's Day Service** on 30th November this year, at our evening Service of the Word. How many of you will wear tartan kilts I wonder? Or maybe fishing outfits! If you know of any Scottish songs you would like to hear, let us know and maybe we can also have a Scottish feast to follow!

We are thinking of rejigging our Services a little so watch this space!! If you have any ideas that you would like us to implement. Please let me know and we'll do our best to accommodate you.

And last but not least — I am organising a big clean up so that we are ready for Christmas!! Suggested dates are 18th October or 1st November. Do you have a preference? If so, please let me know.

Always good to talk to you . . . Jane and Jill.

Good News!

St Andrew's Church, Hagbourne Christmas Tree Festival

will take place from Friday 5th December to Saturday 13th December

Planning is underway and all the Festival favourites like the **Carols in the Close**, the **Grand Raffle** and the **Big Wassail** will return and a special part of the Festival is the **illumination** of the villages by people placing a tree in their front garden for all to enjoy.



We need sponsors (tree angels) for the 30 trees on display in the Church and also main sponsors for the Festival.

The Colours of Christmas If you are looking for inspiration on how to decorate your tree, we have an optional theme of **"The Colours of Christmas"**. If you have other ideas, then that is fine.

What is it all for? We had great support for the Festival last year and our charity to support this year will be **"Friends of Hagbourne Pool"** – the swimming pool at Hagbourne School, which is in need of some upgrading. See page 16 for full details of the charity.

Want to join in the fun? Help is needed for all the various jobs before and during the Festival – if you would like to help in any way please come to our next meeting on **Sunday**, **5th October at 2.30pm in the Church.**

Order forms and more information will appear in the November parish magazine, and keep an eye on the village websites and facebook.

ROTAS	5th October HARVEST FESTIVAL	19th October 18th Sunday after Trinity	2nd November ALL SAINTS' DAY	General Notes We will be flower arranging
Readers	Lamentations 1 vv 1-6 Sally Duncan 2 Timothy 1 vv1-14 Jenny Smith	Jeremiah 31 vv 27-34 Mo Windsor 2 Timothy 3 vv14-4.5 Colin Windsor	Daniel 7 vv1-3, 15-18 Jenny Loder Ephesians 1 vv 11-end Helen Clayson	and decorating the Church for Harvest Festival on Saturday morning, 4th October. All welcome.
Intercessions	Jenny Smith	Celebrant	Celebrant	
Sidesmen	Marian Powell Richard Powell	Chris Price Wendy Price	Robin Harries Jane Blond	If unable to do duty, please let your organiser know or find a suitable replacement.
Coffee	Jill Garlick Sally Duncan	Gillian Harries Marian Powell	Shirley Goss Helen Clayson	
Flowers Lady Chapel	Amanda Davies Alison Davis	Marian Powell	Joy Napper	
Flowers High Altar	Felicity Topping	Jenny Smith	Myra Hardiman	

TOP PRODUCE SHOW – IT WAS BUZZING!







One of the biggest and best shows ever! New participants brought additional dimensions to the day: the Didcot Allotment Society and their glorious herb stall, Meeling Lam with her stunning array of locally grown Asian vegetables, plus Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) - advising us how to make our gardens more wildlife friendly.

The glorious array of produce and crafts was much admired. Congratulations to our cup winners: Children's Cup: Leo Lee; Kenyon award (including baking and preserves): Jane Drew and Charlotte Bullock; Fruit and Vegetable Cup: Vicki and Jim Needle; Egg Cup: Dominique Spingler; Craft Cup: Therese Feest; Art Cup: Yen Rickeard. Best in show: Maria Porter. Best Butts Piece plot: Witold Michonski. The Community Cup this year was awarded to Nicola and Robert Ainger in recognition of their sterling contributions to our community over many years, supporting a wide range of activities including the Fun Run, Flood group, Scarecrow Trail, Village Shop, Open

Gardens and Produce Show with their energy, expertise, humour and charm.

Many thanks to our valued judges across all categories, to the bakers of fine cakes - particularly to Jean Millar for her delicious scones - and to the young tea helpers - Dorothy, Flo and Livi for all their hard work. Heartfelt thanks to our sponsors: the Village Shop for running a stall at the show and providing the lavish bag of goodies for the raffle, Darren and Ruth at the Fleur for their ongoing support, the Garden Club who came on the day and also provided a great floral display for the raffle - as well as Linda, Geoff and Mark for turning up at antisocial hours to help set up. Thanks especially to the dedicated Produce Show committee, the backbone of the event, who continue to bring new ideas and fun to the day. Any profit from the Show will go to charitable donations to charity and to the Christmas Tree Festival. The success of this unique event is, of course, fuelled by each and every one of you who contributed by bringing entries, coming with their families, buying raffle tickets and eating cream teas! Thank you all.

Felicity Topping, Chair, Village Produce Show

If you have feedback or ideas for new categories, please email us at: hagbourneproduceshow@gmail.com

Hagbourne Bowls Club A great season of bowls, good weather, friendship, fun, with lots of competitive bowling to a high standard! Off the green some successful social events helping to raise funds for ongoing green maintenance.

One of our men's team secured a place at the national finals at Leamington and the ladies section won the Ridgeway league. Ending the season has been our Harvest Home Auction with the annual visit from Father Jason and a new fun match between the Fleur Pub Aunt Sally team and ourselves. We have an active and growing membership and are making great progress, however more players of any level are always needed. Whatever your bowls experience 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

HUGS - Hagbournes and Upton Group for Sustainability

Changing world

"The truth is: the natural world is changing. And we are totally dependent on that world. It provides our food, water and air. It is the most precious thing we have and we need to defend it."

These are the words of Sir David Attenborough, our well-loved broadcaster, conservationist and climate activist. Over his lifetime of filming around the world he's seen, and shared, much loss of animal life, diversity and habitat. He's returned to places he filmed earlier in his career, standing on dry land where once was a glacier.



Small Tortoiseshell

David Attenborough's latest film, *Ocean* looks at the role of the seas in our fight against the climate crisis. He has long championed the richness of natural life within the British Isles, as well as warning us all of its demise. We are one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world.

And after our hottest UK summer on record, we have to ask if it's just nice to have heat and sunshine over a long summer, or if we're now all starting to notice the significant change in our weather, and that it's not a change for the good. We know that 1 in 6 of UK species are at risk of extinction. Our area is rich in butterfly species, but citizen science tells us that nationally butterfly numbers have not recovered this year (despite the warm, dry weather).

Leaving space for nature, on our land, in our gardens, in our hearts is the start to making a more positive change. **For more info see www.hugsustainabilty.org**

Summer Teas at St Andrew's . . . A big THANK YOU to all those who hosted one of the Summer Teas during August, for the lovely variety of cakes and the tea and friendship. Thank you to those who supported this fellowship on one or more Sundays during August. This was never just about making money it has been a lovely fellowship, and I hope that you will support us again in whatever we decide to do next year. The teas did raise £629.00 for various village groups and charities. Many thanks, Shirley Goss.

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.

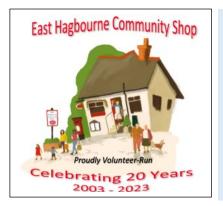
This is a popular Service - all welcome.

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



Hagbourne Garden Club will be meeting on **Thursday**, **23rd October** at the Pavilion. Doors will open for refreshments at 7pm. The talk will start at 7.30pm. The topic this month is **Planting Pots for Winter Interest and Spring Joy** — a talk by Harriet Rycroft on how to plant up pots in autumn using hardy perennials, shrubs and bedding on top of spring bulbs to look good all the way to the end of May, including a demonstration.

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



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/

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OCTOBER 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

Locally produced goods, convenient essentials and hot take-away drinks

What do award-winning Calnan's Cumberland meats, The Beesmith's local runny honey, free-range eggs and home-made cakes have in common? They're available at East Hagbourne Community Shop! Stop in for hot coffee and pick up dinner from the freezer with fresh local produce donated by community gardeners or choose a unique greeting cards by local artists and a Village-themed tea towel for a gift occasion.

NEW STOCK: shelf-stable oat or almond milks, minced ginger or garlic, fancy fizzy drinks. **ARRIVING IN OCTOBER:** Linda Benton's 2025 Christmas cards, Denise's Breast Cancer awareness

knit chocolate oranges – all proceeds to charity.

Artisanal Locally Baked Breads, Savouries and Pastries from Heritage Bakery

each Saturday in the Shop.
Avoid disappointment by pre-ordering favourites by 4pm each Wednesday either in the Shop or by email to easthagbourneshop@gmail.com - you can consult the product list and allergen details in Shop or view it online at

easthagbourne.net. Will it be Chelsea buns or Lardy cake this week?





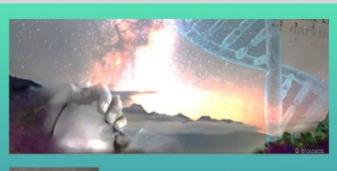


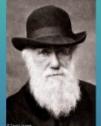
THURSDAY CAKE DAY! Mid-week pick-me-up or a weekend treat, stop in for one of our scrumptious homemade cakes every Thursday. Selections change weekly, and come by early - they don't last long!

EXTRA VEG? We're delighted to offer your garden and allotment overflow to our customers, reducing waste and defraying operating costs. Looking for local produce? We're seeing a variety of gorgeous apples, all perfect for autumnal crumbles and stews! Stop in often – produce goes quickly! – and many thanks, gardeners, for your generosity!

SEEKING POST OFFICE PART TIME ASSISTANT

Chris Billin, our new postmaster, is seeking a highly reliable part-time assistant, hours to be agreed, to allow expanded business hours and to cover his occasional holiday week away. Experience with handling cash and customer service desired. Interested prospects should stop in during Post Office business hours and have a chat with Chris.





Church and Evolution?

A celebration of Charles Darwin and the Science of Evolution

Sunday 19th October 2025 St Andrew's Hagbourne 10.30am and 6pm



Sunday Club

In the Parish Room at 10.30am St Andrew's, Hagbourne

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 dates: Sundays 5th October and 2nd November ALL WELCOME

Online Compline This is a short time of Evening Prayer online every weekday at 8pm – time to wind down from the day and relax. Join using the details from www.churnchurches.co.uk If you go to What's On and click on Services you will find the online Compline details to log on.

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

Comments from the East Hagbourne Parish Council Chairman

There is much concern in the village about the condition of the road to Coscote and the poor surface of the pavement on Main Road. Work on these must be done by the County Council and the Parish Council has been trying for some time to get work done. In the following two paragraphs, I present an update on these.

Footways on Main Road Nearly two years ago, officers of the County Council said that we would be put on a schedule for getting the footways (aka pavements) on Main Road resurfaced using a process known as slurry seal. The presence of white markings and discussions of some residents with people doing the markings increased our hopes that the promised works might be coming more imminent, but the clerk and I had trouble getting confirmation from OCC. We enlisted the help of our new county councillor, Johnny Hope-Smith, and have just heard from him that the markings are indeed related to this work and that the work is at least pencilled in for later this year although we still await a definite date. As there is increasing concern about the deteriorating condition, I hope that that we may see progress on this soon.

The Road to Coscote The news and progress on this is less encouraging, since the automatic scanning of the site did not flag that urgent work was required. However, at the request of our County Councillor, officers from OCC will visit the site and hopefully they might then raise the priority for work on this. In the meantime, keep posting on Fix my Street problems with the road surface.

Speedwatch On a more positive note, there has been some renewed interest in getting a speedwatch team up and running. We really do need quite a number of people to make this viable and sustainable so it would be great if readers of this article, who have an interest in this, could contact the clerk, myself, or councillor Robin Jaboor (robin.jaboor@easthagbourne.net).

Parish Surgeries The next parish surgery will be in the Fleur de Lys on Friday 17th October 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 9th October. 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**

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. Due to occasional illnesses and some people moving away, our numbers are fewer than before, and new players would be welcome. Session fee waived for introductory session. More info from Julian 01235 813599 jgallop@freeuk.com

and Anthony 01235 511920 aannanjones@gmail.com

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

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. <u>Please note-next session: 4th Friday of month, 24th October.</u>



East Hagbourne **Parish** Council

NEWSLETTER No.277 - October 2025

CONTACT DETAILS:

Parish Clerk, Laura Lloyd Telephone: 07891 551 851

Email: easthagbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com



COUNCILLOR COMMUNITY GRANTS: Each South Oxfordshire District Councillor has £7,500 to award to projects and activities that offer community benefits in their ward area, budget permitting. Councillors 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. The application deadline is 5th December. More information can be found on the SODC website here



CHAIRMAN'S SURGERY - FRIDAY 17th OCTOBER lain Duff will be at the Fleur de Lys on Friday 17th October 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 more information.

First Steps Baby Bank at Didcot Baptist Church on Tuesdays and Fridays, see here for info.



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 here

Warm Welcome Space at Didcot Library, see further info here for opening times and 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



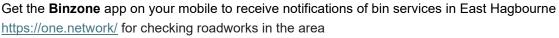
DEFIBRILLATORS: The village defibrillators are available 24/7 at the following locations: Outside the Village Shop at 114 New Road Hagbourne Village Hall (next to the main entrance) Hagbourne Bowls Club on The Croft (defibrillator is wall mounted outside the gate) In an emergency, call 999 - they will give you the access code.



USEFUL INFORMATION LINKS:









one.network

Planning applications received since the last newsletter:

P25/S2611/LB Parsonage Farm House, Main Road, East Hagbourne – Listed Building application for renovation works including new roofing

P25/S1942/FUL Wilcher Close – SOHA application for roof replacement at 2 flat blocks

P25/S2782/LB / P25/S2781/HH Bay Cottage, 15 Main Road, East Hagbourne - Replace concrete roof tiles with

P25/S2944/HH Parsonage Farm House, Main Road, East Hagbourne - Fencing to front boundary, reinstate previous tennis court, replacement gates to main entrance

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 9th October 2025 at The Pavilion, Great Mead

All Council meetings are open to the public and we welcome your participation.



JAZZ IN THE CHURCH

We had a remarkable Jazz event in the Church, to raise funds for the Friends of St Andrew's. FoStA is a non-religious charity, who raise money to help maintain our Grade 1 listed St Andrew's Church.

A large audience enjoyed two hours of swing jazz, provided by the Jamie Castell Quartet. Jamie is a regular guest saxophonist at our monthly Jam in the Fleur, and the vocalist – Airlie Scott – wowed us with her stunning voice, and a selection of great songs.

I am happy to say that the event made £700 for FoStA, who have spent more than £20,000 this year, and have a pipeline of projects for which funds will be required.

The next Jam at the Fleur will be on 8th October at 8pm. See you there.... Peter

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 16th October**.

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 higarlick@gmail.com and Shirley Goss – 815605 shirley.goss@btinternet.com

HAMS ... PROLOGUE

Our new season, *Process and Play*, begins on **Thursday 23rd October**, 19.30–21.30 at the Village Hall. Over the winter months we'll be exploring, learning and laughing together through a varied programme of drama activities, all building towards a lively social showcase event on **Friday 27th and Saturday 28th March**.

Are you new to the village or roundabouts and looking to meet people? Perhaps you once enjoyed acting but haven't taken part for a while? Maybe you know you love theatre and you are looking for another group to join through the winter?

HAMS is your local drama group. We welcome all ages and levels of experience — whether you're curious, keen, or simply want to try something new.

This season includes:

- Workshops led by our members Masterclasses with guest experts
- Theatre trips Behind-the-scenes sessions on technical and staging roles
- A social showcase event to show-off the season

Subscribers, look out for more details in your inbox.

If you'd like to find out more about us and the season ahead, or just to say hello, drop us a line at info@thehams.co.uk. Come along, join in, and be part of the fun!

Email:info@thehams.co.uk www.thehams.co.uk



Celebrating – one year on!

Here at First Steps Baby Bank we are celebrating one year of referrals! Gemma and Leanne (both Hagbourne residents!) set up the Baby Bank last year to support families in need with free essential baby items. Through a simple referral we support families with 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.

To date we have just completed our 157th bundle, going out to a family to help ease the pressure they are currently facing. As the Baby Bank grows, we look forward to exciting times ahead as we search for a premises and register as a charity and strengthen our volunteer team.

Thank you to everyone for your support so far. We have been blown away by the community with their encouragement and kindness. We are continuing to spread the word about what we do, to ensure that anyone in need of support is aware we are here. Please follow us on Facebook - First Steps Baby Bank - to keep up to date with what we are doing and what items we are most in need of. You can also find out more about us on our website - www.firststepsbabybank.co.uk.

Didcot and District U3a If you have recently retired or a semi-retired individual living in or around Didcot and looking for new interests and making new friends, then look no further and consider joining the Didcot & District U3A to `Learn, Laugh, Live'! With over 30 Interest Groups, such as learning a new language, delving into your family history, enjoy walking with friends, learning to play an instrument, and many more, details can be found on: https://didcot.u3asite.uk

New members are always warmly welcomed to join (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 21st October is All About Swans by the author Dan Keel



Love dogs?Have time to spare?

Why not become a Volunteer Puppy Trainer?

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People is urgently looking for kind-hearted dog lovers in and around the Hagbournes who would be interested in volunteering to care for and train a puppy who will go on to transform the life of a deaf person.

All costs are covered.
No experience is necessary.
hearingdogs.org.uk/volunteer/ or
call 01844 348129 to find out more

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

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.



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:

Donate online: www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/friends-of-hagbourne-pool

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.

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 16 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.



NOVEMBER 2025 PARISH MAGAZINE

Please let us have copy for the November 2025 parish magazine by **Saturday 18th October to magtemp5@gmail.com**Thank you, the magazine committee.

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