

next meeting

the next meeting of the *Parish Council* will be held on **Thursday 10th July 2008** starting at **7.30pm** in Hagbourne School



bike night

this annual event is being held at the Horse & Harrow on Tuesday 15th July at 7pm

international polo

The Bicester Village International Polo Match England v Australia on Saturday 28th June 2008 at Kirtlington Park Polo Club

twinning agm

The AGM will be held at 7.30on Thursday 26th June in Didcot Civic Hall. A short business meeting will be followed by a light-hearted picture quiz, with wine and refreshments.

overhanging hedges

Please ensure your hedges are kept trimmed back to boundary lines especially where they abut the highway.

potholes

if there's a particular pothole which needs attention please let the Parish Clerk know or you can report it on **0845 310 11**

pimms pates & puddings

A village association event is being held at Broomsticks on Sunday July 27

bonfires

please have some consideration for your neighbours when having bonfires. There have been several incidents when noxious fumes from plastics and tyres have been reported to the environmental health department. If your fire causes a nuisance - they will take action.

neighbourhood watch

The village needs a co-ordinator to take on the role for neighbourhood watch. If you'd like more details please contact the clerk.

history meeting

The village history group is holding its annual general meeting at 7.30pm on Monday 30th June at Wycherts in Main Street. Open to all villagers new members are always welcome

message board

you can use the message board section on the web site to add news items, notices or feature information about forthcoming events.

slow down please

A number of drivers using Moor Lane and York Road are not driving with due care and attention. There are many children and cyclists who live in the village and there have been a number of near misses.

opt in

In response to the fact that many local authority consultations are giving less and less time to respond, it has been suggested that we offer an alternative way of distributing information around the Parish.

If you would like to join an *email circulation list* which receives notifications of meetings, minutes, public consultations and important headlines, please email the parish clerk and your address will be added to the list. You will be able to opt out at any time.

For those of you who do not have access to a computer, a telephone cascade will also be established for urgent neighbourhood watch messages, and we hope this will allow fast warnings of rogue traders or traffic incidents.



snow transformed the Square *in April*

web site

The site is getting more visits, but will evolve if more of you use it, so use the message board, engage with skill-swap and get involved. If you've an idea, or something for the site contact the web master at www.westhagbourne.org

transition community

Totnes is the first Transition Initiatives, a community in a process of imagining and creating a future that addresses the challenges of diminishing oil+gas supplies and climate change, creating the kind of community we would want to be part of.

The challenges presented to us today by global warming and peak oil (and gas) are perhaps the greatest that humanity has faced. This time brings a great opportunity for rethinking the way we live and making conscious choices about what kind of community and world we would like to live in. Change is coming whether we like it or not - and a planned response to the change will leave us in a much stronger position than if we wait until change is upon us.

Do you think West Hagbourne should consider the implications of becoming a transition community ?

Find further details at the site below: www.transitionnetwork.org

Scotland's Ash Garage

MOT testing from 6am
Diagnostic Fault Finding and
Servicing on all types of vehicles
Air Conditioning Exhausts
Body Repairs Courtesy Cars

**HUGE SAVINGS
ON TYRES**



01235 850 707

www.scotlandsashgarage.co.uk
Main Street, West Hagbourne OX11 0NA

*For the garden of your dreams -
consult a professional*

MARY ANN LE MAY

• GARDEN DESIGNS •

Blissetts West Hagbourne OX11 0ND

Tel: 01235 850523 Fax: 08700 516043

www.maryanndesign.co.uk

CHAUCERS picture framing

by Sallie Pickering

High quality framing at realistic prices
Huge selection of frames, mounts,
creative ideas and inspiration
Conservation Framing

(01491) 652984

info@chaucersframing.co.uk

10% off orders over £50 with this advert

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH



FETE

theme: Heroes, Heroines and Villains

opens 2.15pm

Saturday 14th June

HODSONS
the property professionals
"Not all estate agents are the same!"

THINKING OF MOVING?

Straight forward, straight talking,
professional advice from your local
Independent Estate Agent

Successfully selling
property in

Abingdon 01235 553686
Didcot 01235 511406
Wantage 01235 763611
and surrounding villages

www.hodsons.co.uk

West Hagbourne news

June 2008 Issue 83

osprey tracked

An ornithological project the Highland Foundation for Wildlife has been tracking an Osprey called *Logie* as it migrates. On the 15th April Logie was recorded flying at 33 km/h, as she passed over West Hagbourne on her westward journey.

The shortest direct distance between her wintering site on Roxa island in the Guinea Bissau archipelago and her nest in Scotland is a massive 5198 kilometres (3229 miles).

Find details/pictures at www.roydennis.org and follow the link to Osprey migration

stone revealed

During the recent clean up of Moor Lane, a long-lost village treasure has been uncovered. This is a large stone which was once partly submerged under a pond close to Grove Manor Farm in Moor Lane. The former pond is now little more than a ditch and the stone disappeared from view many years ago. At one time the pond was more like a ford and wellies were needed to cross it. Farm tractors had to manoeuvre around the stone in order to get down the lane.

For the children of West Hagbourne, however, it held a special magic and was known to them as the 'growing stone', possibly because it appeared to grow and shrink according to the changing height of the water. Today many villagers have fond memories of happy hours spent playing "down the pond". The stone was their own island playground. Eleven year-old Mary Bishop wrote in her diary on 19th January 1947: "played by Nappers' farm... Dick got wet feet and cried, thought he would get into trouble for getting feet wet. Came home and changed stockings."



Children made rafts out of old drums dumped in the pond. These were just as unstable as the old tin bath one child tried to turn into a boat. It remained for a very long time lodged in the tangled

undergrowth on the deep side of the smelly, stagnant pond beloved of children and ducks but viewed by parents as a sure source of nasty diseases.

The rediscovered Moor Lane stone is most likely a sarsen stone. Many of these hard sandstone blocks can be found scattered over chalk downs. The most famous sarsen stones are those associated with Stonehenge. Closer to home are those at Wayland's Smithy, the Avebury Stone Circle and at the foot of Kingstone Down near Ashdown House. More humble sarsen stones can be found scattered around our own village, including the latest find in Moor Lane.

Village History Group

ice-cream sacrificed

One brave villager recently threw all caution to the wind and dashed to the assistance of a horse who had bolted and ended up in the middle of the pond. Despite becoming covered head to toe in algae and weed, she coaxed the frightened animal to the side of the pond and when the traffic eventually stopped, it was returned to its distraught owner.

Despite a lifelong aversion towards all kinds of horses, Lynn Carter of Green Thatch abandoned her ice cream leaving her husband to watch from the comfort of his garden chair, to run to the aid of this horse. The animal survived and was attended to by the vet later in the day, it apparently was saddle-shy and had vaulted several fences before careering down the lane and ended up on its side in the pond !



meeting with SODC planning - to discuss the future

The Parish Council is meeting with SODC Strategic Director for Housing and Planning Anna Robinson and Adrian Duffield - Head of Planning Services - if you would like to attend, please contact the clerk for date and time. Full details will be posted on the notice boards and website.

Eleanor Bowey, who died in April, gained her place at Oxford to study Physics in the late 1930's, but with the outbreak of the second world war, she joined the WRENS (Women's Royal Naval Service). When conflict ended, she discovered all the places at the university were given to men in preference to women.

This led to her working at Harwell as a technical officer in the Linear Accelerator Group, where according to Joan Freeman in her book 'A Passion for Physics: The Story of a Woman Physicist', Eleanor kept a spare engine for her Austin 7 under her workbench, just in case!

Eleanor restored two cottages in Moor Lane in the early fifties, converting them into one house where she lived for many years.

A founder member of the Village History Group a Parish Councillor and chair of the East & West Hagbourne Society, she will be missed.



Eleanor Bowey 1924 - 2008

in this issue

smoke alarms

parish council

tidy up

diary dates

old weather

bus passes

incidents on our roads

meetings of the parish council

The Parish Council held its Annual General Meeting and an ordinary meeting on **Thursday 24th May** at Hagbourne School.

Phil Taylor stepped down as Chair and was then re-elected Chairman of the Parish Council and Marion Judd was re-elected as Vice-Chair.

Reports

It was agreed that the Reports for the Parish Meeting would be circulated in advance. As this would incur a cost for printing the 09 Budget would be adjusted accordingly, as there is now an income from advertising.

The Annual accounts were presented to the Council. The Council approved these as a true record of the Council's receipts and payments and financial position. The Council thanked Roger Sweet for bringing these annual accounts up to date.

William Tyrrell Charity Trustees

the Council confirmed the re-appointment of Mike Butler who has agreed to continue as a Trustee.

Subscriptions and Donations

The Council decided to renew the subscriptions to the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils and the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council.

After much debate the Council decided to make donations of £25 each to Didcot Volunteers Centre, Didcot Citizens Advice Bureau, the Royal British Legion, South & Vale Carers, Ryder-Cheshire and the St Andrew's Church Organ Appeal.

Insurance / Banking arrangements

The policy with Allianz Cornhill was approved and the Doctors' memorial seat has been added to the policy. Barclays bank was re-appointed as the Council's bankers.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at Broomsticks on Saturday 24th May at 3pm

The ordinary meeting followed:

Concern was expressed over the condition of the village garden, a new gardener was to be sought.

District and County Councillor's reports

Patrick Greene addressed several questions asked of him in advance. An e-mail he received from Anna Robinson of SODC indicated that planning gain was not appropriate to small parishes. This was felt to be incorrect as such a large proportion of the Great Western Park will be built within the existing Parish boundary. There seems to be confusion over how policy is being interpreted so it was suggested a meeting between the Hagbournes with Anna Robinson and Adrian Duffield -Head of Planning - should be set, to clarify and discuss the expansion of Didcot into this parish.

Patrick also suggested a meeting with Highways to discuss various issues outstanding, for example how Didcot managed to have entire pavements and entrances re-surfaced when West Hagbourne still has no safe pavement around the village.

The question of a cycle track leading to Wantage Road was raised. Patrick was unsure about what money has been allocated by the 106 planning agreements. He agreed to investigate and report back.

Council Aims and Objectives 2008-09

These were circulated as they form the core of the present Councils policy and are driven by the input received from Parishioners who attend the annual Parish Meetings plus the Parish Plan survey.

Land opposite Horse & Harrow

Greene King have confirmed that they hope to conclude this matter by the end of 2008.

Consultations

The Council agreed to respond to Oxfordshire County Council's Primary Capital Programme and requested an extension of deadline. The Council will also be responding to the Thames Water Consultation

Finance

The Council accepted and approved the monthly report on expenditure

Eleanor Bowey

The Council noted the recent death of Eleanor who had been a Councillor for four years and had lived in the village for many years.

Around the village

Thanks to Chris Lay and Dave Totterdell for all the work carried out in Moor Lane clearing dead wood and brambles. The Oxford Conservation Volunteers have been asked for help in the Autumn.

A new waste bin will be provided on the telegraph pole toward the Horse & Harrow.

7.5 Tonne Weight Limit

Two officers from Trading Standards joined the meeting. They discussed how residents can help with the implementation of the 7.5 tonne weight limit and the way in which they deal with the drivers and discussed a "Neighbourhood Weight Watch".

Trading Standards do not have any powers when it comes to foreign vehicles but are in the process of producing yellow weight restriction check signs which will warn drivers that restrictions are in place.

Communication

A letter from Mrs Sage of Ivy Farm Cottage was circulated which raised concern over any replacement of the trough by the pond. It was agreed to ask what the Parish wanted at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Correspondence from Mary Ann Le May referred to the verges being damaged by large vehicles. This will be discussed with SODC and Highways officers.

The Didcot Community Forum considered a mission statement for a "brilliant". Didcot and David Buckle, Chief Exec of SODC, told them that Didcot would have the best eco housing with the next stages of growth. OCC and Didcot First are lobbying to change Didcot Parkway back to just 'Didcot'.

The Parish Council was represented at the induction of The Revd Jason St John Nicolle as new Rector of the Churn Benefice at St Andrews Church.

The date of the next meeting will be Thursday **10th July 2008** at 7.30pm in Hagbourne School

Parish Council

Phil Taylor Chair 850 182

phil.taylor@westhagbourne.org

Marion Judd Vice-Chair 850 434

marion.judd@westhagbourne.org

John Thornhill 850 489

john.thornhill@westhagbourne.org

Tom Barker 850 858

tom.barker@westhagbourne.org

Sue Totterdell 850 080

susan.totterdell@westhagbourne.org

new Parish Clerk

Michelle Lightfoot 851 875

parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

District Councillor

Patrick Greene 813 396

patrick.greene@southoxon.gov.uk

County Councillor

Patrick Greene 813 396

patrick.greene@oxfordshire.gov.uk

planning applications

A new planning applications for extension at Scotland's Ash Nursery has been submitted and Ivy Farm has lodged an appeal against refusal for a barn conversion.

newsletter

This newsletter is **published by** West Hagbourne Parish Council

We welcome contributions on all subjects and in particular anything of relevance on issues that directly affect the residents of the parish of West Hagbourne.

copy deadlines

August issue 30 July

October issue 30 September

December issue 30 November

please e-mail copy for inclusion to **parishclerk@westhagbourne.org** or drop off at Brooklands

West Hagbourne news

village association news

The Village Association held their AGM on 12 February 2008. There were ten people present. A change was made to the constitution to clarify that all residents of West Hagbourne are automatically members of the village association. The chairman reported that this was the Association's tenth year and the social highlight was undoubtedly the free Sunday lunch to mark the occasion. It was extremely successful and the 90 or so who turned out enjoyed an excellent lunch.

The treasurer reported that there had been very little change in the finances this year. The cost of the lunch was largely offset by a raffle held on the day. The balance at the start of the year was £1253.84 and at the end £1131.33. The committee all then formally stood down and elections were held. The committee is as before Peter Mitchell (chair), Keith Walton (Treasurer), Hazel Rack (Secretary), Marion Judd, Betty Kendrick, June Little, Mike Parker, Bridget Pickup, Roger Sweet and Val Walton.

The committee are planning to repeat the Paté, Pimms and Puddings lunch of 2005. This will be held on July 27 at Broomsticks thanks to Marion's kind invitation. Please make a note in your diary. Tickets will be on sale soon. We also discussed the possibility of celebrating St. George's Day next year. This will be formalised later in the year. The judging for the Madge trophy will be held in August.

The next meeting of the village association will be held on Tuesday 1 July. Please contact a member of the committee if there are any suggestions or issues you would like raised.

Hazel Rack

Eleanor Bowey

I first met Eleanor in 1964 after her return from Canada where she had been working at the University of Saskatchewan. At that time Eleanor was a close friend of my aunt and uncle at Broomsticks. As I quickly came to realise, Eleanor enjoyed her friends and social life, and from the first meeting with her in the company of my aunt and uncle, friendship and the generous hospitality she dispensed was to continue over the next 44 years.

Over the following years while raising a family in London, I did not manage very frequent visits to West Hagbourne and only had sporadic contact with Eleanor, but kept in touch with her doings through my aunt to whom, amongst many others, Eleanor was a loyal friend.

On moving to West Hagbourne in 2000, I came to learn much more about Eleanor, what a remarkable person she was and how much she had achieved in her working life. She was always extremely reticent and modest about her achievements at work despite the importance of the scientific advances she had fought so hard to contribute to. A visit to Google Scholar reveals nearly 100 citations of published work where Eleanor is a co-author. In her personal life she was always ready to help and advise her friends and remained fiercely loyal to them throughout her life.

Eleanor's love for animals, particularly corgis and horses, was lifelong. For many years she was a familiar sight with a corgi or two in tow around the fields and lanes of West Hagbourne. In her last months she used to reminisce often about her corgis and her much loved first pony Puck.

Longer-term residents of West Hagbourne hold many and varied memories of Eleanor over the years. As a former colleague, Parish Councillor and member of the History Group Eleanor has left her mark on West Hagbourne and everyone associated with her. For me her friendship, her loyalty, her integrity, her modesty, her commitment to helping others and her love of animals leave lasting happy memories of her.

Marion Judd

2008

NORTH BERKS MCC AND
AJS & MATCHLESS OWNERS CLUB

JOHN WHEELER BRITISH BIKE NIGHT TUESDAY 15th JULY

7pm DON'T
MISS IT!



ALL BIKES WELCOME
HORSE & HARROW PUB
WEST HAGBOURNE
Off A417 Oxon

PLUS:

- * CLASSIC CARS
- * TRIALS DEMONSTRATIONS
- * AWARDS FOR BEST BIKES
- * FOOD VAN
- * AND OUTSIDE BAR

www.northberksmcc.com

Heyfordian Travel

bus route 94/95

Mondays to Saturdays

Didcot-Moretons-Astons-Blewbury-Didcot									
service notes	95 M-F	94 M-F	94	94	95	94	95	94	94
Didcot Parkway	07.10	07.50	08.50	09.40	10.30	11.30	12.30		
Didcot, Broadway, Market Place			08.53		10.33	11.33	12.33		
Didcot, Orchard Centre					10.34	11.34	12.34		
Didcot, Sandringham Road					10.37		12.37		
East Hagbourne, Memorial					10.40		12.40		
Coscote, Cottages					10.43		12.43		
West Hagbourne, opp Shelter	07.16	07.56			09.46	10.46	12.46		
North Moreton, Bus Shelter	06.38		09.00			11.38			
South Moreton, Crown	06.40		09.02			11.40			
Aston Tirrold, opp The Close	06.47		09.09			11.47			
Upton, Station Road, Shelter		07.20	08.00		09.50	10.50	12.50		
Blewbury, Load Of Mischief	06.54	07.24	08.04	09.16	09.54	10.54	11.54	12.54	
East Hagbourne, Memorial	07.00	07.30	08.10	09.22	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	
Didcot, Sandringham Road	07.02	07.32	08.12	09.24	10.02	11.02	12.02	13.02	
Didcot, Orchard Centre				09.27	10.05	11.05	12.05	13.05	
Didcot, Broadway, opp Market Place	07.07R	07.37	08.17	09.30	10.08	11.08	12.08	13.08	
Didcot Parkway	07.10	07.40	08.20	09.34	10.12	11.12	12.12	13.12	
Didcot Girls School			08.25*						

Didcot-Blewbury-Astons-Moretons-Didcot									
service notes	95	94	94	95	95	94	94	95	95
								M-F	M-F
Didcot Girls School		14.25A	15.25B						
Didcot Parkway	13.30	14.30	15.30		16.30	17.10	17.50		18.50
Didcot, Broadway, Market Place	13.33	14.33	15.33		16.33	17.13	17.53		18.53
Didcot, Orchard Centre	13.34	14.34	15.34		16.34	17.14			
Didcot, Sandringham Road	13.37	14.37	15.37		16.37	17.17	17.57		18.57
East Hagbourne, Memorial	13.40	14.40	15.40		16.40	17.20	18.00		19.00
Blewbury, opp Load Of Mischief	13.46	14.46	15.46	15.54	16.46	17.26	18.06	18.14	19.06
Upton, Station Road, opp Shelter		14.50	15.50 (15.50)		17.30	18.10	(18.10)		
Aston Tirrold, The Close	13.53			16.53					19.12
South Moreton, opp Crown	13.58			16.58					19.17
North Moreton, opp Bus Shelter	14.02			17.02					19.19
West Hagbourne, Shelter		14.53			17.34				
Coscote, Cottages		14.56							
East Hagbourne, Memorial		15.00		16.00				18.20	
Didcot, Sandringham Road		15.02		16.02				18.22	
Didcot, Orchard Centre		14.05	15.05		16.05			18.25R	19.24R
Didcot, Broadway, opp Market Place	14.08	15.08		16.08				18.28R	19.24R
Didcot Parkway	14.12	15.12		16.12	17.10	17.40		18.30	19.26

Notes: M-F = Mondays to Fridays only * = schooldays only
A = Friday schooldays only B = Monday to Thursday schooldays only
R = calls on request of passengers on board

 These services are normally operated with wheelchair accessible buses