

West Hagbourne Oxfordshire

AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2010 ISSUE 96

Mobile Shop

A mobile grocery shop is being launched later this year, and will soon be visiting villages in Oxfordshire. It is expected to operate weekly from November 2010.

Becci's Mobile Shop will stock a range of local fresh produce, baked goods and ecologically sound alternatives to some major brands as well as staples such as tinned goods, drinks and household products. With seasonal fruit and vegetables and all their meat and dairy products from Oxfordshire sources, they promise prices will be competitive with local supermarkets.

They have asked if West Hagbourne would like to be included.

They do not want to intrude on areas which do not want their service and the impact on the Community Shop in East Hagbourne needs to be considered, but it seems a useful service if people do want it and we can be included.

Further details to follow.

Free Solar Panels

Might you be eligible for a recently launched government funded Free SolarShare Scheme ?

They require:

- Roofs which are due south facing
- The further south & west the better
- Unshaded roof (just 3% shading reducing solar efficiency by 25%)
- Around 30m²+ of clear space

But note that listed buildings and some homes in conservation areas are trickier because of planning rules.

The biggest benefit of this free scheme is that you don't have to commit yourself to a big upfront payment, and you start making electricity net savings faster. Though you do commit to having the panels in the scheme for 25 years.

Find more info at www.homesun.com

Lifestyle event

Hagbourne School PTA are holding a Ladies Lifestyle and Beauty Evening to raise funds towards new changing rooms for the school pool.

The event is going to be on the evening of Friday 8th October from 7.00 - 10.30 and tickets cost £5.00 which includes a complimentary drink, canapés and a gift bag.

There are going to be plenty of therapists offering treatments such as massages and manicures and a range of independent retailers offering the opportunity for some early Christmas shopping.

Demonstrations and talks will take place throughout the evening along with a licensed bar.

For Tickets or to find out more details you can contact the school office or Carole Ireson at Taormina, Main St or telephone 01235 850027 .

Bogus calls

Several people in this area have received telephone calls from someone claiming to be involved with Crime Prevention who asks for details such as, have you got a burglar alarm, how old are you etc.

Recently a West Hagbourne resident received such a call and when the Police were contacted their response was as follows:

"It has been happening around the area over the last month. The caller can come across very aggressive. The best advice I can give would be if anyone gets these calls to just hang up. If people wish they can call us on 0845 8505505."

Skittles

Please put this date in your Diary

The Village Association is holding a Skittles session on Saturday the 13th November 2010 at 7.30 pm in the village hall in Upton.

Come and bring your friends for supper and a game of skittles.

There will be jacket potatoes with delicious fillings followed by some scrumptious puddings and coffee! Tickets £5.

Available from members of the Village Association.



News

Broadband

In answer to a recent feature asking how many of us would like to see a faster adoption of fibre optic in the village, a number of you responded and Hugh Lewis found an article which is extracted below.

"For many years now, BT has been claiming it simply cannot afford to deliver fibre broadband to large parts of the country. In 2008, the Broadband Stakeholder Group claimed it would cost £5.1 billion to deliver nationwide Fibre To The Cabinet (FTTC) – a figure that BT itself has repeated in public.

However, a press release issued by none other than BT today provides a fascinating insight into the economics of fibre broadband – and casts some doubt over the accuracy of those lofty figures.

In what BT describes as a "fibre triumph", a local council in Kent has contributed to the cost of deploying fibre in the village of Iwade. According to BT, the council stumped up £13,000, which "unlocked" £62,000 of investment from the telco, meaning it cost a total of £75,000 to bring fibre to each of the village's 1,350 premises.

Those figures (which I've double checked with BT) mean that it cost £55.56 per property to bring fibre to the village."

Read more: Is fibre broadband as expensive as BT makes out? | **PC Pro blog** <http://www.pcpro.co.uk/blogs/2010/07/08/is-fibre-broadband-as-expensive-as-bt-makes-out/#ixzzoviMWyJck>

The Parish Council will attempt to make contact with BT and see if their Regional Manager will help or give some assurance over their future plans which will then be reported in these pages as and when a response is received.

Car Share

An online car sharing scheme available to anyone travelling in or through Oxfordshire has been launched by Oxfordshire County Council.

Anyone can sign up for free at www.oxfordshirecarshare.com to link up with others making the same journey - saving money and helping the environment in the process.

Open to both drivers and non-drivers, the website provides the opportunity to choose a travelling companion (or even companions) significantly reducing petrol and parking costs, decreasing pollution and cutting rush-hour congestion in the process.



Duck Race

This is always a fun event and one of the most popular among.

The 11th Annual Duck Race is going to be held in East Hagbourne at Parsonage Stream on Sunday 29th August at 12.30pm. £50 first prize.

Everyone welcome.

Tickets are available for your entry at the Hagbourne Community Shop.

Police open day

The fifth Thames Valley Police open day is being held at Sulhampstead near Reading on Saturday 4th September

The open day aims to help promote greater understanding of the work of the various departments and specialist roles within the Force.

The public will have the opportunity to look around the Force Museum, which is packed with the history of Thames Valley Police, and get the chance to meet some of the officers from the Force's specialist departments.

Admission is £2.50 per adult and under 16s go free. No dogs, except guide dogs, are allowed on site. Parking at the site is limited and will be available on a first-come-first-served basis. Disabled access is available.



Boules

As part of Hannah Gardiner and Frankie Taylor's fundraising for their expedition to Borneo in 2011 they have organised a Boules event to be held on Saturday 21st August between 3 and 6pm on specially laid out courts at Manor Farm - just by the pond.

Everything you need will be provided. The game of boules (or Petanque) can be played by anyone, young and old and should be a great family friendly event. Come and try something new and while away a summers afternoon.

Popular in France, there has been an upsurge in its popularity, and it was described in one national paper in July as 'the' sport to be seen playing this summer.

Its only £10 to enter a team of four.

There'll be a raffle, a barbeque and cold drinks will be available to buy.

Further details from either of the girls on 850182 or 851091

Roads

County Councillor Patrick Greene has assured the Parish Council that the newly appointed contractor responsible for the repair of potholes in the area, will make an improved job of the problems that are reported.

Some minor holes in York Road and by the Horse & Harrow have at last been dealt with but those on Main Street and towards Coscote remain marked up but still cause a risk to cyclists and other road users.

the Kiosk

Has anyone any unusual ideas for what to do with the telephone kiosk?

Communities have filled theirs with plants, made them into a book exchange, and even filled them with pieces of local art.

One is used as a performance space, several have been turned into bijou galleries and others are finding a second life as information points. The problem of what to do with redundant red phone boxes has been solved in imaginative ways

More than 400 boxes have now been taken over by local communities.

The winner of the £5,000 BT first prize for most creative use of a disused box was in Great Shelford, in Cambs. where its box houses a mannequin dressed as a historical or fictional character suggested by local children.

If you have an idea talk to a Councillor, or contact the clerk.

Notices

Craft Fair

Hagbourne School PTA, will be holding their annual Christmas Gift and Craft Fair on Sunday 28th November at Hagbourne School and Village Hall from 11am till 3pm.

This popular event offers the chance to pick up some great gifts and crafts for the whole family. Children can visit Father Christmas in his Grotto and refreshments will be available throughout the day.

For more information contact Sharon Englefield on 01235 814201.

Save Energy

What has Water got to do with Energy? The short answer is plenty! About 70% of global freshwater is used in agriculture - this provides us with our food energy. Hydropower provides some 20% of global electricity.

On average each person in the UK uses 150 litres of water a day. According to Waterwise, this rises to 3400 litres a day when you add the water used to produce the goods we import. Moving this lot around takes energy.

We're lucky - we get rain in the UK, but we should not take water for granted. There are many easy ways to use less:

- Keep showers short - especially if you have a power shower
- Re-use water - bath water is fine for watering plants
- Have a water meter fitted - on average metered homes use 15% less water
- Modify your toilet to give you a reduced or graduated flush
- Fix dripping taps

Also note that 30% of the average UK gas bill goes on heating water, so insulating your hot water tank and using less hot water will save you money.

For further information, visit www.cocoonyourhome.co.uk/saving

Bins

You should be receiving a new calendar of bin collections as from the 27 September, SODC will be starting new arrangements as collections join up with the Vale of the White Horse District Council.

The whole district will start the new calendar with grey bin collection the week commencing 27 Sept.

In some cases, this may mean grey bin collections two weeks in a row.

Village Show

The Hagbourne Village Hall show is due to be held on Sunday the 12th September 2010.

There'll be classes in Garden Produce, Home Produce and Crafts. The Children's schedule includes flower arranging, cakes and crafts.

Details are all available from the Community Shop.



Parish Council

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South Oxfordshire District Council
01491 823000

County Councillor

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Oxfordshire County Council
01865 792422

Planning applications

An application to extend Rowan in York Road has been submitted to South Oxfordshire District Council for approval.

You can search based on your post code at www.southoxon.planning, there will be a link on the web site at www.westhagbourne.org/planning.htm

Deadlines for 2010

October 30 September
December 30 November

Contributions for the newsletter are always welcome on all subjects but in particular anything affecting the residents of the parish of West Hagbourne

The newsletter is distributed to every house in West Hagbourne Parish, is entirely funded by advertising revenue and is currently assembled by Phil Taylor and printed by Tracey Anderson.

Advertising

For sale or wanted small ads are free if you live in the Parish, but all other advertising revenue pays for the production of the newsletter and the costs associated with hosting the web site.

please e-mail copy for inclusion to parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

Minutes

Minutes of all meetings of the Parish Council are available on line.

If you would like a copy of the minutes emailed to you, please contact the clerk. Or if you do not have access to the internet, please call the clerk and a printed copy will be delivered to you.

www.westhagbourne.org/pc_minutes.htm

At its last meeting the Parish Council received a report from the History Group which was pleased to have some new members and had plans to document the location of all key information. This will prove very helpful in the future and should assist any other projects which may come forward. The Council agreed to help.

Oxfordshire Conservation Volunteers have once again offered their services to continue the work in Moor Lane and they will come and for a day in November.

The Clerk reported that after discussion with the County Council the grass cutting grant had been 'increased' to include additional verges between the Horse & Harrow and the 30mph signs past the nursery. The areas (opposite the Horse & Harrow and beyond the limit signs) would now be funded from within the Budget.

The Clerk is going to discuss with the webmaster a more user friendly solution to show individual planning applications on the web site.

The westhagbourne.org domain has been renewed for 5 years.

The Council agreed to make concerted efforts throughout this year to minimise any unnecessary spending, and where possible to cut back or save on anything it has budgetary influence over.

Next meeting

The Parish Council will next meet at 7.30pm in Hagbourne School on Thursday 23rd September 2010.

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