

# West Hagbourne news

June 2016 ISSUE 127

## Hagbourne Hill

Over the next couple of weeks the County Council will be finishing the construction of the new roundabout improving the link between the A417 and Harwell Oxford / A34 and will also be carrying out the landscaping to the verges of the A417 & Hagbourne Hill. This includes the planting of **28 oak trees** in the area where the old Hagbourne Hill road was and the planting of some new replacement hedges.



They expect the main work on the A417 to be complete by the 10 June. The final phase of works will be on Hagbourne Hill and the whole scheme is expected to be complete and fully open by the end of June.

## Celebration

This summer sees the celebration of the Queen's 90th Birthday.



The celebration will take the form of a garden party which will be held at the Horse & Harrow pub, where free BBQ and buffet lunches will be served from 12noon on Sunday June 12th.

Tea, coffee and squash will be included, but of course full bar facilities will also be available. You must have a ticket to attend this free event.

## Parish Meeting

About 25 villagers attended the meeting on 24 May 2016.

In his report on the Parish Council, the Chairman explained that the recruitment of a replacement Parish Clerk resulted in an annual increase in the salary paid by £537, as the rate of £10 per hour paid previously was too low. This, and the removal of the grant to cover the cost of grass cutting, were the main contributors to the increase in the budget and thus the precept.

An update was given on the progress towards carrying out traffic mitigation measure under section 106 funding provided by the developers of the Bloor Homes site. It is expected that approximately £30,000 will be available and OCC has some proposals which are being considered. The progress of the new junction layout was also noted, and it was explained that although the works took a portion of the land owned by the Charity of William Tyrell, OCC had acquired an adjacent plot of land and this was being transferred to the Charity to ensure that the area is the same. The Charity is also receiving financial compensation.

The grounds given by SODC for refusal of the planning application for development on the land to the east of Scotland's Ash were discussed as they will apply to any other applications for developments which extend the village.

On the topic of village maintenance, concern was expressed about the amount of foliage obstructing the view at the corner leading to Park Road. This has since been attended to by the owner of the land.

Flooding in York Road has been taken up again with OCC. Concern was expressed at water running down Brook Lane which seems to

have been caused by developers at the Bloor Homes site pumping waste water into the system. This is currently under investigation but for the time being the flow of water down Brook Lane has stopped. The state of the pavement along Main Street, leading to the pond, is being reported to OCC.

At the request of villagers the Parish Council are looking to provide a skip for general waste this year. Concern was expressed at the state of the path to East Hagbourne from Foxglove Lane. The Parish Council will inspect the path later in the year and if necessary will form a working party to carry out work. Finally, the Parish Clerk is to obtain a quote for installing additional dog waste bins and emptying them at intervals.

A few people remained behind the meeting for a glass of wine.

Find Photos of the Dragons and much more information about West Hagbourne at [www.westhagbourne.org](http://www.westhagbourne.org)

## Madge Trophy

Following the warmer weather and some well-timed rain, the gardens of West Hagbourne have burst into flower, making a drive or walk through the village a real pleasure. Residents are reminded that the Madge Trophy - awarded for front garden summer displays will be judged on **Monday 1st August** this year so get planting and weeding now.

## Liftshare

So far three people have volunteered to offer lifts to fellow villagers if needed. Please get in touch with Sue (850080) if you want to try to arrange transport.

## Lunch club

The May lunch club sadly was cancelled due to illness. However, we plan to continue to meet on the third Friday of the month with about 20 regulars on the list. The next lunch is scheduled for Friday 17th June.

To sign up or to be included on the mailing list, please contact Marion or Sue.



## Bus update

**The future of the 94 bus service:** Thames travel have just released the following information: Service 95 will cease to operate on 23/7/16.

Service 94 will operate to a revised route with reduced hours of operation, and will run on Mondays to Fridays only, with effect from 24th July 16. Peak journeys will be extended to serve Didcot schools.

Thames Travel have given no details of the revised route or hours of operation but at least we will still have a bus service. However I suspect that it will only continue to operate as long as it remains commercially viable and therefore we need to use it.

Val Brownsword

## Water Update

Thankfully the flooding in Brook Lane has been brought largely under control.

Now that repairs have been completed to the pumping station, the traffic lights in Main Street have gone at last.

# News

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## Dragon judging

A report from this years Judge, Sharron Jenkinson:  
It was a great pleasure to be asked to judge the Competition. I very much enjoyed my stroll around West Hagbourne and was impressed with the effort that so many residents had gone to. I'll always remember where I was on the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Following discussion with the organisers, I was looking for originality, effort and also whether people had taken up the challenge of reflecting the royal birthday. It was a hard decision but I decided to award first prize to the knitted family of dragons celebrating the Queen's Birthday at 1, Manor Close. The overall ensemble was most attractive and entertaining and showed talent and artistry. As well as the happy, and clearly well fed, dragons, I liked the knitted bunting, cake and biscuits. The wonderful dragon astride the birthday gift at Chapel Hays receives the second prize. The colours and textures (clever use of bubble wrap) were superb. The Children's Prize goes to the marvellous effort at the Nursery, a very cheeky chap in a top hat and decorated with a Union Jack crest. Two other splendid dragons must get a mention, the handsome green and red creature on the lawn at Fairview and of course the fantastic purple chap peering through the bushes on the bank of the pond.

Thanks again for asking me.

## Referendum

Although the issues may be complex, your vote in the Euro referendum counts!

You should have had your polling card by now. Don't forget, voting day is on Thursday June 23<sup>rd</sup>.



## Health talk

From Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group:  
The CCG wants to recruit 'mystery shoppers' to gather people's comments about their experiences of local hospital services to help improve patient care. People who have been recent patients at the John Radcliffe Hospital, the Churchill Hospital and the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre in Oxford and have the time to help can obtain an information sheet and 'mystery shopper' questions in the following ways: email the Patients Association [jane.brooks@patients-association.com](mailto:jane.brooks@patients-association.com) for a print version call the Patients Association on 020 8423 9111 or write to OCCG Mystery Shopper Project, c/o The Patients Association, PO Box 935, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 3YJ

## UBA

Didcot & District University Of The Third Age meets on the third Tuesday each month at 2pm at Didcot Civic Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to a meeting as a taster before joining. Tel: 07802 237963

Our next meeting will be held on 19th July 2016 when our speaker will be Liam D'Arcy-Brown talking about "China and the Opium Wars"

On Tuesday 16th August Cyron Snow will give a talk entitled "Sulgrave Manor & the Washington Family"

It's never too late to expand your horizons. The University of the Third Age offers the opportunity to share your knowledge, experience and talents with others and learn from them in friendly surroundings. Why not come along to the next meeting of the Didcot & District U3A and find out what we are all about. A member of our committee will be on hand to make you welcome

For more information 0751 8600 395 [didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com](mailto:didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com)  
Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>



## Village tidy up

Thank you to all the hardy people who turned up on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April ready to tidy up the village. The weather was awful and so we decided to postpone the litter collecting until the following morning. The weather was fine and sunny on Sunday and a total of 8 adults and 2 children collected a lot of litter from around the village. The worst areas were at the extreme ends of the village which indicates that it is not the people in the village who create the litter but people driving through and throwing rubbish out of their cars for some unknown reason.

Already more litter has appeared in Brook Lane. It is rather disheartening. Anyway a warm thank you to the people who helped on 17<sup>th</sup> April and to the people who just collect rubbish as they walk around the village.

Val Brownsword

## Police & Crime

Anthony Stansfield (Con) has been re-elected as Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner.

You can contact him at:

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley  
The Farmhouse  
Thames Valley Police  
Headquarters  
Oxford Road, Kidlington  
Oxon, OX5 2NX  
Phone 01865 846780

[pcc@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:pcc@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)  
contact by email or in writing is preferred.

## Wallingford hockey

Following the success of the 2015-16 season with three of our nine senior teams gaining promotions it is time to turn our attention to the upcoming season. Our five Men's teams play from MBBO Regional Division One through to MBBO Open Division 9 whilst our four Ladies teams span from TrySports Premier 1 through to the TrySports Three Counties Division Five. The social Mixed team play regularly throughout the season as well as entering tours during summer.

The club also boast as a thriving junior section (4-16 year olds). Training and home matches take place at The Hithercroft, in Wallingford, where we have our own pitch, on-site parking, bar and new changing and physio facilities. For full details regarding training for the different sections of the Club please take a look at the website. As well as offering seriously fun hockey on the pitch we also have a thriving social scene with many events throughout the season and the summer, you will always find players in the bar after a match. Our Club is always looking for new members of all abilities, so whether you are current player looking for a new Club or looking to return to hockey after a while we have something to offer you. There is no better time to join Wallingford Hockey Club as we are offering half price senior membership fees for new members for the 2016-17 season. So if you are looking for a seriously fun club to play hockey at please take a look at [www.wallingfordhc.org.uk](http://www.wallingfordhc.org.uk) and find out more about our Club or get in touch.

## Bob Beacroft

An edited version of the eulogy delivered on May 9th at the memorial service.

Bob Beacroft grew up in a colliery town in Derbyshire the youngest of four, racing milk trains on his motorcycle. Despite doing well at school an apprenticeship on a farm near Cambridge ignited a passion that was to set him on a path for the rest of his life. After gaining a Diploma in Agriculture at The Midland College he moved to Kelmscot. Whilst there he met Joyce Eavis, the daughter of a local farmer, whom he married in 1947. It was a romance filled with laughter and motorcycle madness (they both ended up in a field having misjudged a hump back bridge). In 1947 they moved to Sussex where Bob managed a dairy farm and in 1950 he took over a tenancy on Lilley Farm in Mapledurham, moving in with Joyce and new son John. Five years later, having expanded his herd of cows and paid off his loan, daughter, Sue arrived, completing the family. In the late 1950s Bob made a move from cattle to pigs, despite his father assuring him there was no money to be made in them. He soon had a flourishing herd of 300 sows and in 1968 John joined him in the purchase of Greenlands Farm, at Moulsoford. When Sue returned from travelling in Australia, they set about developing a Limousin herd at Lilley and by 1974 the total farm business covered 1400 acres with a further 400 acres of rented land. Between 1975 and 1987, Bob and John together were running just over 3000 sows.

This would have kept most people busy but not Bob. He was instrumental in setting up a co operative marketing group - Thames Valley Pigs - which is now the largest in the country. TV Pigs became a real passion and Bob travelled all over the country, persuading farmers to join, getting them the best prices through some expert negotiation. On a trip to Barcelona for producers, his absence on the outbound flight was quickly explained by the fact he had cycled to Spain. He was also proud to have been the president of the National Pig Breeders Association. He was

generous in helping others. He always made time to listen and then somehow gave them the confidence to go forward. Not content with creating business opportunities he always had other projects too, constructing wonderful herb gardens, planting woodlands and creating beautiful wild flower meadows, way before they became fashionable, and designing the barn conversion for his move to Hagbourne in 2000. By the late 70s Bob was apparently beginning to take life at a more leisurely pace. For him, this meant taking up fell walking, wind surfing and serious road cycling. He went to the Maldives to wind surf and was severely admonished for going beyond the reef where there were plenty of sharks, but apparently "the wind and water were better". Following a knee operation he took up cycling and he travelled the world. At 73 he went from Lands End to John O' Groats, he cycled the East coast of the States, both Islands of New Zealand and all over Europe. He would call on friends anywhere, be it for a bed, meal, or just a chat. One cycling friend commented that the problem of cycling with Bob was you spent the whole day looking at his backside as he was always the one at the front.

The mutual love between Bob and Joyce was obvious to all. Their homes were always full of young people, students, many of whom remained lifelong friends. Parties never seemed to end until the early hours. In the seventies, John married Claire, Sue married Chris Lay and the family continued to grow! When his grandchildren were young, regular family Sunday lunches at Lilley allowed him time to enjoy their company. His grand children were a real delight to him, and kept him feeling young. His interest in all aspects of their life never faltered, whether it was sporting triumphs, travel plans or business problems, he took great joy in helping to achieve their goals in life. This was a loyal, passionate, warm, fair man, and truest of friends. His legacy is not only his family and the business he built up, but the others he helped inspire. He was a man who stood tall but enabled others to rise and stand alongside him.

# Parish Council

## Clerk

Andrew Wise  
[parishclerk@westhagbourne.org](mailto:parishclerk@westhagbourne.org)

## Councillors

Mike Butler Chair	850 523
<a href="mailto:mike.butler@westhagbourne.org">mike.butler@westhagbourne.org</a>	
Valerie Brownsword	850 668
<a href="mailto:valerie.brownsword@westhagbourne.org">valerie.brownsword@westhagbourne.org</a>	
Hugh Lewis	851 113
<a href="mailto:hugh.lewis@westhagbourne.org">hugh.lewis@westhagbourne.org</a>	
Mike Telford	851 236
<a href="mailto:mike.telford@westhagbourne.org">mike.telford@westhagbourne.org</a>	
Oliver Doogue	851 156
<a href="mailto:oliver.doogue@westhagbourne.org">oliver.doogue@westhagbourne.org</a>	

## District Councillors

Pat Dawe + Jane Murphy  
[pat.dawe@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:pat.dawe@southoxon.gov.uk)  
[jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk)  
South Oxfordshire District Council  
01491 823000

## County Councillor

Patrick Greene 813 396  
[patrick.greene@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.greene@oxfordshire.gov.uk)  
Oxfordshire County Council  
01865 792422

## Council Meetings

are held in Hagbourne Village Hall  
6th July 2016 7.30 pm  
7th September 2016 7.30 pm

Minutes of meetings of the Parish Council are available online. If you cannot find them contact the clerk, if you do not have access to the internet, call the clerk and a printed copy will be delivered to you.  
[www.westhagbourne.org/pc\\_minutes.htm](http://www.westhagbourne.org/pc_minutes.htm)

## HGV's & potholes

Please report potholes direct to Oxfordshire Highways. If you can supply a photograph that gives some idea of the extent of the pothole this will help assess the urgency for its repair.

You can do this online at [highwaysenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highwaysenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk) telephone: 0845 310 1111

or by writing to: Southern Area Office Oxfordshire County Council Milton Road Drayton OX14 4EZ

[www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes](http://www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes)

## Planning updates

Plans have recently been submitted to develop the old pumping station to the south of the Tyrell Trust land, into a house. This proposed development falls within the North Wessex Downs AONB.

The application to build a workshop/outbuilding in the front garden of Limecroft was refused - this refusal is now subject to an appeal.

The application to build 5 houses adjacent to Scotland's Ash garage has been refused.

If you want to be notified about planning applications that affect West Hagbourne, you can sign up for email alerts. This can be done directly on the SODC planning website, or you can ask the Parish Clerk to put your email address onto the village mailing list. Contact Andrew Wise, Parish Clerk, [parishclerk@westhagbourne.org](mailto:parishclerk@westhagbourne.org)

# local events

If you have items you are prepared to give away, send us a short advertisement with the details for inclusion (free of charge) in the next newsletter.

## June 17th Lunch Club

Horse & Harrow 12.30 pm

## June 21st AGM Didcot Twinning Association

Didcot Civic Hall 7.30 pm

## June 23rd Euro Referendum

Hagbourne Village Hall

## July 1st The Vale Trio

All Saints Church, Goosey, 6 pm Concert  
'Cantabile' Tickets £15 call 01367718334

## July 19th U3A

Didcot Civic Hall 2 pm "China and the Opium Wars"

## August 16th U3A

Didcot Civic Hall 2 pm "Sulgrave Manor & the Washington Family"

## Didcot Film Club

The club meets at Cornerstone in Didcot at 8 pm. Annual membership costs £5.

Film tickets can be bought via the Cornerstone site or in person.

## Wednesday 29 June

The Third Man (1949) Director: Carol Reed  
Starring: Orson Welles, Joseph Cotten, Alida Valli

## Wednesday 27 July

Grandma (2015) Director Paul Weitz  
Starring Lily Tomlin, Marcia Gay Harden

## Wednesday 31 August

Beasts of No Nation (2015) Director Cary Joji Fukunaga, Starring Idris Elba, Abraham Attah, Emmanuel Affadzi

# Next edition

please e-mail copy for inclusion in the August issue by July 30



# About us

This newsletter is funded by its advertisements, edited by Marion Judd and Sue Totterdell, formatted by Phil Taylor and printed by Hugh Lewis.

editors@westhagbourne.org.uk



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## Marquees

The Village Association has two Marquees.  
£25 plus a returnable deposit of £50  
The Association will not be responsible for any claims for accidents that may occur during the rental.

12 x 5 metre and 11 x 4 metre  
Tables and chairs are also available.

For advanced booking and details please contact **Rob Robert Griffiths (Woodleys)**  
rob.griff@yahoo.co.uk

All donations go towards our village funds.



Is there anyone out there willing to mind my small dog for six weeks in September, all food supplied?

Marion 850143

westhagbourne.org

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