

# West Hagbourne news

February 2017 ISSUE 131

## Village Walk

The village walk, which was organised by the West Hagbourne Village Association, took place on Sunday, 8th January.

Thankfully, after a rainy morning, the skies cleared for the afternoon when a group of 15, accompanied by 3 dogs, gathered for a New Year's walk. Having met at The Square, we crossed Main Street into Moor Lane, then once under the railway bridge, we turned left onto Church Path towards East Hagbourne. In East Hagbourne, we walked through the churchyard, then turned immediately right to meet up with the Fieldside path. After passing Captain's Cottage in Fieldside, we turned left along the little footpath and came out at Lower Cross on Blewbury Road. Next, we walked towards Didcot along New Road, passed the Post Office, then turned off left along the path which skirts Millennium Wood, to meet the railway line.

We crossed over onto Mowbray Field where we paused briefly for a photo., then walked back along the line, down onto Church Path and into the village along Foxglove Lane. Finally, we returned to The Square having covered a distance of 2.84 miles in exactly 1hour and 30 minutes.

All walkers agreed that it had been a very enjoyable experience, and expressed a wish for another walk to be organised. This will be discussed at the next WHVA meeting later this month, so watch this space!

The Village Association thanks all those villagers, along with their friends and families for supporting this event.



## Garden Town

The SODC and the Vale are developing a delivery plan for Didcot Garden Town with a team of consultants to improve the existing town and link the new residential areas, enterprise zones and science campuses. Although West Hagbourne lies outside of the boundary of the planned Garden Town it is within the designated area of influence. It is important that as many people as possible have their say and help shape the vision for the future of Didcot.

For the village it is crucial that our views are well represented since these may differ from the residents of Didcot. If the consultants assign importance to views expressed by the largest number of respondents, we have to make sure lots of us respond.

A new interactive [Didcot Garden Town website](#) has been launched on which anyone can leave comments and suggestions. So far there are already comments about the amount of traffic through the village and the effects of recent and planned road changes. There are also references to maintaining the gaps between Didcot and the surrounding villages. You can easily add your views to the map and move the interests of our residents at the top of the agenda.

## NHS issues

The Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has launched a "Big Health & Care" public consultation which runs between 16<sup>th</sup> Jan to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

The consultation is concerned with the new NHS Sustainability and Transformation plans the CCG is obliged to implement.

A consultation event is being held in Didcot on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February between 10am – 12pm in the Didcot Leisure Centre, Mereland Road. Spaces are limited and must be booked in advance.

For a hard copy of the consultation document, and/or to book a place, Phone 01865 334 638.

Further events are being held in:

**Bicester:**  
Tuesday 21 February: 3pm – 5pm

**Henley:**  
Thursday 2 March: 8pm – 10pm

**Wallingford:**  
Monday 6 March: 8pm – 10pm

**Abingdon:**  
Thursday 23 March: 6.30 – 8.30pm

This consultation aims to seek people's views about proposals for "changing the way we use our hospital beds" and changes to acute stroke services, maternity, obstetric and gynaecology services/emergency gynaecology surgery and special baby care units, plus changes to NHS services at the Horton Hospital in Banbury.

keep up to date

[www.westhagbourne.org](http://www.westhagbourne.org)

The web site carries all sorts of information and contact details copies of minutes of all organisations if you view the newsletter online the hyper links work too

Full details of the proposals can be seen online at: <https://consult.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/consult.ti>

A copy of the consultation document can be downloaded [https://consult.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/gf2.ti-/767746/24397413.1/PDF/-/The\\_Big\\_Consultation\\_Online.pdf](https://consult.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/gf2.ti-/767746/24397413.1/PDF/-/The_Big_Consultation_Online.pdf)

### Editor's note:

Sustainability and transformation Plans (STPs) are five year plans for the future of health and care service provision in local areas.

STPs represent a very significant change to the planning of health and care services in England. (King's Fund, Nov-16). Due to the ongoing shortfall in NHS funding, there will be a financial gap running into hundreds of millions of pounds by 2020/21 in most of the (STP) footprints (Chris Ham, CEO, King's Fund 2017). This means that we are about to experience significant changes and cuts in healthcare provision in Oxfordshire, and similarly across England. The CCG has no other choice but to implement these plans.

These plans will result in changes to the way our healthcare is delivered, and cuts to NHS services and hospital beds nationally are likely along with care becoming more difficult to access. Many commentators now believe that cuts to NHS funding, services, and the STPs are precursors to our government moving England towards an insurance-based US style health service.

# other news

## U3A

Didcot & District U3A meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2pm in the Didcot Civic Hall.

Please arrive 15 minutes before the start time to ensure you are all seated for the 2pm start.

Tuesday 21st February 2017:

Phil Judkins will give a talk entitled 'Enigma, Bletchley and the Hunt for Hitler's secret weapons'

Tuesday 21st March 2017:

Alistair Lack will give a talk entitled 'A light hearted History of Oxford University'

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 phone 01235 211291 or 01235 510048

email [secretary@didcotu3a.org](mailto:secretary@didcotu3a.org)

Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/di>

## Opportunists

A number of thefts have been reported in East Hagbourne, Didcot and the surrounding area.

Please check your sheds and outbuildings are secure and check any elderly neighbours have done the same.

If you have seen any suspicious looking people or vehicles in the area or have any information relating to this message please call the Police via the 24 hour non-emergency telephone number 101

## Xmas lunch

A convivial group of around 20 villagers met on 16th December for a Christmas lunch at the Horse and Harrow. The festive menu proved a great success and we offer our thanks to Helen and Tony. The January lunch at the Horse and Harrow was well attended, and a jolly time was enjoyed by all.

We are now back into our monthly village lunch programme. Normally these take place on the third Friday of the month although January's had to be delayed a week as Helen was taking a well-earned break.

The date for March's lunch will be altered as it currently clashes with the Cheltenham Gold Cup meeting.

The new date will be circulated via the mailing list. Otherwise contact Marion or Sue for an update.

If you want to come along, just let Sue or Marion know so your name can be added to the list. If you want regular updates, please pass on contact details.



## French group

Venue King Alfred Drive, Didcot 9.30-11 Tuesdays

Come and join this small, friendly French Conversation group to maintain/improve your French by discussing French news, culture, films, travel, short stories and 'chansons'. We subscribe to 'La Vie Outre-Manche', 'le magazine en langue francaise pour les lecteurs anglophones'

Suitable for post-GCSE and above

For more information contact: Sheralyn Hares

phone: 01491 837718 or email: [cavafrenchclub@btconnect.com](mailto:cavafrenchclub@btconnect.com)



## Debt Advice

More people saddled with unmanageable debts are turning to Citizens Advice, leading the charity to call for people to seek help before they reach crisis point. Nationally, a rising number of people have resorted to a debt relief order (DRO) since the amount of debt covered by a DRO rose from £15,000 to £20,000 last October.

DROs are a last resort for people who have exhausted all options for repaying their debts and won't be able to pay in the near future. They work by "pausing" most of your debts for a year so that your creditors can't chase you for repayment. At the end of the year, unless your circumstances change, your debts will be written off.

Debt write-offs can have a serious impact on people's credit rating, which makes it more difficult to take out more credit agreements or even open a new bank account.

Citizens Advice is now urging people who are failing to keep on top of their debts to seek advice early, so that they have the best chance of managing their debts.

An adviser stressed: "We will discuss your individual situation and look at the options available to you, so that you can make an informed decision about the best debt management for you."

For further help visit [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk), phone 03444 111 444 or drop into your nearest Citizens Advice. For locations and opening hours see [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale) Citizens Advice Oxfordshire South and Vale is an independent charity that provides the local Citizens Advice service.

## Earth Trust

A number of events are planned. For full details see [www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson](http://www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson)

You can build a bug house (Feb 5th), try drawing some Creepy Crawlies (Feb 13th) or visit the pop-up Planetarium (Feb 14th).

You can have a Woodland Adventure or a nature walk at Mowbray Fields (Feb 15th) or learn how to build a bird box (Feb 16th).

Not all of these events are free and for some booking is essential. Check out their website.

## Unitary Council

Oxfordshire currently has six councils – one county council, four district councils and one city council. It's suggested that all six councils should be ABOLISHED and be replaced by just ONE new council for the whole of Oxfordshire.

One Oxfordshire believes the current system is complicated, wasteful and no longer financially sustainable. Without change, important local services could be further reduced and some may have to be cut altogether.

It could save over £100m in the first five years - money that could be used to improve local services and keep council tax down.

This is called a 'unitary' council. One council for Oxfordshire could be simpler, better for services, more local and cost less to run.

This is what they mean by ONE Oxfordshire. They would like to know what you think of our draft proposals. See more details at

[www.oneoxfordshire.org](http://www.oneoxfordshire.org)



## Link Road !

The compound by the Kingswell is taking shape ahead of main work commencing on the link road that will run parallel to the A34 linking the Wantage Road.

Note this will mean the old path The Driftway which runs between Harwell and West Hagbourne will once again be diverted.

## Be Aware !

The police have recently reported a spate of local break-ins and power tool thefts from garden sheds and parked vans.

Also, fraudsters are emailing members of the public who are expecting to make a payment for property repairs. The fraudsters will purport to be a tradesman who has recently completed work at the property and use a similar email address to that of the genuine tradesman. They will ask for funds to be transferred via bank transfer. Once payment is made the victims of the scam soon realise they have been deceived when the genuine tradesman requests payment for their services.

## Protect yourself

Always check the email address is exactly the same as previous correspondence with the genuine contact.

For any request of payment via email verify the validity of the request with a phone call to the person who carried out the work.

Check the email for spelling and grammar as these signs can indicate whether or not the email is not genuine.

Payments via bank transfer offer no financial protection; consider using alternative methods such as a credit card or PayPal which offer protection and give you an avenue for recompense.

If you believe that you have been a victim of fraud report it online [http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report\\_fraud](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud) or by telephone 0300 123 2040.

**This week people have been going round the village offering to do property maintenance or repair work. The police advise that no one should ever accept offers from strangers on your doorstep. It is extremely unsafe to do so as scams are likely. If you need work done, you should approach builders or other maintenance persons of your own choice, yourself. If anyone is concerned about being approached by people offering property services, or have seen your neighbours being targeted or are concerned for vulnerable residents, please contact the police on 01865 841148 or 101.**

[www.westhagbourne.org](http://www.westhagbourne.org)

The web site holds information and contact details of local organisations, details of events and copies of minutes

if you view the newsletter online the hyper links work too

# Parish Council

## Clerk

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

## Councillors

Mike Butler Chair 850 523

[mike.butler@westhagbourne.org](mailto:mike.butler@westhagbourne.org)

Valerie Brownsword 850 668

[valerie.brownsword@westhagbourne.org](mailto:valerie.brownsword@westhagbourne.org)

Hugh Lewis 851 113

[hugh.lewis@westhagbourne.org](mailto:hugh.lewis@westhagbourne.org)

Mike Telford 851 236

[mike.telford@westhagbourne.org](mailto:mike.telford@westhagbourne.org)

Oliver Doogue 851 156

[oliver.doogue@westhagbourne.org](mailto:oliver.doogue@westhagbourne.org)

## 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  
The next meeting will be held on  
Wednesday 1 March at 7:30 pm

- see website for future dates

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)

From now on, shortly before each meeting of the Parish Council the agenda will be circulated by email to all those on the list.

To comply with legal requirements, a physical copy of the agenda will still be posted on the Parish Council notice board.

## Planning updates

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

An amended planning application for land to the East of Scotland's Ash Garage was again refused.

The main objection is that the site lies outside the developed village envelope.

A retrospective application has been made by Little Acorns Nursery for a change of use from a garage to offices.

## 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)  
0845 310 1111

or by writing to: Southern Area Office Oxfordshire County Council, Milton Road Drayton OX14 4EZ  
or go to  
[www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes](http://www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes)

## Parish Email List

Many items of possible interest to parishioners are circulated by email to addresses on a list which is maintained by the Parish Clerk. If you wish to be placed on this list, or wish to check that your entry is correct, please send an email to the Clerk at  
[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.

### Friday Lunch Club

At the Horse & Harrow 12.30pm

Friday 17th February

The date for March's lunch will be altered as it currently clashes with the Cheltenham Gold Cup meeting. The new date will be circulated via the mailing list.

### Didcot's Farmers' Market

is held every second Saturday of the month from 8.30am to 1.30pm

### Proposals for a Unitary Authority

on display at Didcot Library  
Friday 17th February 10:00 - 12:30

### Didcot Film Club

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

It shows the sort of films you probably won't see in mainstream cinemas.

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

Wed 22 Feb 8pm **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof** (1958 US) An alcoholic ex-football player (Paul Newman), drinks his days away and resists the affections of his wife, Maggie (Elizabeth Taylor). His reunion with his father, who is dying of cancer, jogs memories and revelations for both father and son.

Sat 18 Mar 2pm 2001: **A Space Odyssey** (1968 UK) From the birth of humanity to the beginnings of Artificial Intelligence in the form of the infamous H.A.L. 9000.

Wed 29 Mar 8pm **When Marnie was There** (2014 Japan) Upon being sent to live with relatives in the countryside, an adolescent girl becomes obsessed with an abandoned mansion and infatuated with a girl who lives there - a girl who may or may not be real.

Sat 15 Apr 2pm **Lawrence of Arabia** (1962 UK) The epic story of an English officer who successfully united and led the diverse, often warring, Arab tribes during World War I.

Wed 26 Apr 8pm **The Secret in Their Eyes** (2009 Argentina) A retired legal counsellor writes a novel hoping to find closure for one of his past unresolved homicide cases and his unreciprocated love with his superior - both of which still haunt him decades later.

www.westhagbourne.org



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**AED  
Emergency  
defibrillator**

The West Hagbourne Emergency Defibrillator is located in the Telephone Box in the Square

**in the event of an emergency call 999**

**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 **Robert Griffiths** (Woodleys)  
rob.griff@yahoo.co.uk  
All donations go towards our village funds.

*Bare Essentials*



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DPI PEDICURE | WAXING | JEAN MARIN FACIALS | LASH & BROW TINTING  
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**Next edition** 

please e-mail copy for inclusion  
in the next issue by **February 30th 2017**

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

contact  
editors@westhagbourne.org

**house to rent in France**

**Noirmoutier Island, west of Nantes - sleeps 7**

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for more information  
and photos

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