



## Favourite pothole The Pond

Are you fed up with the state of the roads in West Hagbourne?

In an effort to highlight the issue in the village, we would like residents to nominate the pothole they think is most likely to cause damage/annoyance/an accident. Please take a photograph of the offending pit (with due care to traffic conditions) and send it to [editors@westhagbourne.org.uk](mailto:editors@westhagbourne.org.uk) with details of its location. The editors undertake to notify the most disruptive pothole to the Parish Council so that they can bring it to the attention of Highways.

You can, of course, notify the council of potholes yourself, online [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 by using the link from the Village Website.

After the big clean up of the pond, when all the silt was removed, we look forward to seeing the pond evolve this summer.

For those with longer memories, do you recall when the pond was 'The Romantic Lagoon'? The accompanying photo shows boats (a shilling a ride) launched as part of an event held at Manor Farm. It was posted recently on Facebook, by Gilly Bishop.

Not surprisingly, the people in the photo are identified mainly members of the Lay and Napper families but apparently the tall man at the back of the spectators is Michael Butler, although not our Parish Council chairman.

Its great to know there is still a strong community spirit thriving in West Hagbourne.



## Annual Meeting HGVs

Come along to Hagbourne Village Hall on Wednesday 10 May at 19.30 to the **Annual Parish Meeting** to meet your Parish Council, hear what they and the other organisations across the village have been doing during the past year and have the opportunity to raise with them any issues you might have about the Parish.

A weight check was conducted recently in West Hagbourne. A Trading Standards employee was stationed at the junction of Foxglove Lane and Main Street on Thursday 23 March, monitoring through traffic. It is not clear if any overweight vehicles came through the village during the period of monitoring, but it is reassuring to know that occasional checks are being made.

## Broadband

A planning notification was sent to SODC in February for the installation of a brand new telecommunications cabinet on the corner of York Road and Main Street, beside Lizard Bank with FTTC (Fibre to the Cabinet).

This will mean that West Hagbourne residents should at last be able to access the 'superfast' broadband speeds that have been available to other properties in the Blewbury Exchange for some time.

No date has been given for the start of the work but hopefully it will be within the next few months.

Congratulations to **Joan and David Clark** (Chiaro, York Road)

who celebrated their **Diamond Wedding Anniversary** on March 30th 2017.

Joan and David have made their home in West Hagbourne since 1960 and have certainly seen some changes in the village during this time.

## Village Tidy-up

There will be a Village litter pick on Saturday 8th April.

Anyone wishing to help should meet at the bus shelter at 10am. Pickers, bags and hi-viz jackets will be available. It would be a good idea to bring gloves.

As usual, the more people that we have to help on the day, the less each individual will have to do. Looking forward to seeing you.

Val Brownsword

## Local Plan

On Wednesday 5 April, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils are holding a joint drop-in exhibition of their proposed Local Plans .

The exhibition at the Cornerstone will be open from 1 pm to 7 pm.

Go along to have your say.

## Spring colour

The village is awash with colour as spring gets going.

The early show of crocuses under the Horse Chestnut tree in the Square got things off to a good start (thanks to Mary Ann LeMay for donating the corms). Hopefully in time they will look nearly as good as those in the garden of Sula Sgeir (John and Doreen Watling). A riot of daffodils in everyone's front gardens took over and now more colour is being added every day.

So this is a good time to be thinking about the Madge Trophy, awarded each year for the best front garden. Judging will be in September this year - the date remains to be agreed.

## Dragons walk tea

By now, all village residences will have received a flyer giving details of our planned St George's Day village celebrations.

We look forward to seeing a blaze of West Hagbourne dragons ( all sizes, shapes, colours welcome - so do have a go! ) displayed around the village from Sunday 9th April until Sunday 23rd, in order to mark this special day.

We also hope to see you at the village teas at Chapel Hayes, Main Street, on St George's Day from 2:30 - 4:30pm, when you can enjoy a cup of tea and some delicious homemade cake in the company of fellow villagers, family and friends.

As usual, the marquee will be erected on the back lawn, so no need to worry about the weather! If, on that day, you are also feeling a little more energetic you can join us on a short springtime walk starting at 2pm from The Square and finishing at Chapel Hayes in good time for the prize-giving and refreshments.

The planned walk, will of course include a tour of the village, spotting dragons!

# other news

## Science Festival

Friday 16th to Wed 21st June 2017. The festival provides opportunities for existing and new audiences to explore the exciting scientific research and creativity undertaken within Oxford and across the surrounding region.

It brings together researchers, journalists and industrial experts in a range of managed locations to share thought-provoking and pioneering ideas about science and technology with the public. The range of events will be designed to appeal to a wide audience spectrum, from families to professional scientists and researchers, so there will be something for everyone. For more information search Oxfordshire Science Festival or go to their Facebook page.



## Musicals

Local singing group WSMC is delighted to present "Magical Musicals" a concert celebrating the fantastic songs from the Musicals at Hagbourne Village Hall.

The night will feature hits from well-known musicals such as Grease, Chicago, The Sound of Music and Blood Brothers. As well as family favourites like The Jungle Book and The Little Mermaid and more modern shows including The Commitments, American Idiot and Rock of Ages.

Don't miss out. Book your tickets now to see this amazing show. Saturday 13 May – East Hagbourne Village Hall

Show starts: 7:30pm (doors & bar open at 7pm)

Tickets: £9 (£7 concessions) are available from East Hagbourne Post Office, or online.



## Safe + well

Did you know that Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service offer free Safe and Well Visits? Their firefighters will visit you at home to see what they can do to help you reduce the risk of fire. A visit combines a Home Safety Check to help reduce the risk of fire in your home, such as checking and fitting smoke alarms and help to make a fire escape plan. During the visit firefighters are able to provide advice and support to reduce any immediate risk from falls, fire, flood or power cuts. They can also provide advice on health and crime prevention too. You can request a visit online at [www.365alive.co.uk/safewell](http://www.365alive.co.uk/safewell) or call our Community Safety Helpline on 08000 325 999.

## Earth Trust

The Earth Trust is running a full schedule of activities over Easter, with sessions tailored for different age groups. These range from Lambing weekends to photography courses to basket weaving and bushcraft. A charge is made for most of these events, and pre-booking is essential. For a full list of activities, go to The Earth Trust web page and for additional information please call 01865 407792 or email [admin@earthtrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@earthtrust.org.uk).

## NHS Future

Further to the article on the OCCG Big Health & Care public consultation (February Newsletter), at the meeting held in Didcot on 13th February it became clear that insufficient information is being provided to allow the public to make informed responses to the consultation. The changes proposed could have far reaching effects on patients from the local community. We can expect to lose a number of beds at both the JR and the Churchill hospitals, at a time when, judged by the widespread housebuilding, the local population is set to increase. Underpinning the planned bed reduction is the idea that more services should be provided within the community, but this is set against the existing shortfall in staff, including GPs and nurses. At the same time, introducing such fundamental change is likely to carry a high initial cost. Although it is interesting to see innovative strategies being used to increase the response rate to this consultation (lottery tickets have been offered to some residents as an encouragement) such responses are unlikely to be well-informed if they are based on the information available so far. The division of the consultation into two separate phases also seems destined to reduce overall engagement due to 'feedback fatigue'. The NHS as we understand it seems to under considerable strain and some believe that this is due to a longterm goal to alter it irrevocably from the 'free at the point of contact' and 'to each according to their need' basis on which it was founded. Privatisation of services introduces the need to make a profit for shareholders. Such a radical change should be carefully scrutinised by the public to ensure that they have the NHS they want and need. Responding to consultations is an important step.

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

## Tour de Vale

Buckinghamshire's biggest and best charity bike ride is back with three glorious routes (25km, 60km, 100km) starting and finishing at Stoke Mandeville Stadium. This years ride takes place on Sunday 11 June. Touring the scenic countryside, each route offers water stops and is equipped with marshals, first aid and support vehicles for your safety. With the 2,000 capacity expected to sell out, cyclists are urged to enter early to avoid disappointment. Email for more info: [info@wheelpower.org.uk](mailto:info@wheelpower.org.uk)



## Village Lunch

There was another good attendance for the monthly Village Lunch, at the Horse & Harrow. The March date was delayed by one week to allow the pub regulars to enjoy a splendid celebration of St Patrick's Day and the Cheltenham Gold Cup. In April we will be back to normal with the lunch on Friday 21st April (third Friday of the month). If you want your name on the mailing list, please contact Sue Totterdell or Marion Judd.

# 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)

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[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.

## Parish Council

The annual meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 3 May 2017 at 7:30 pm in Hagbourne Hall.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be on Wednesday 10 May at 7:30 pm in Hagbourne Hall. This is the meeting where residents of the village are invited to come along and meet their Parish Council.

## 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).

## 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)

## 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).

## U3A

Didcot & District U3A meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2:00 pm in the Didcot Civic Hall. Please arrive 15 minutes before the start time to ensure you are all seated for the 2pm start.

16th May - The World of Travel Posters - speaker David Tinker  
20 June The Foundling Hospital - speaker John Caldicott  
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>

## Macmillan coffee

The Village Association will be hosting this charitable event and we hope you will be able to support us with this very worthwhile cause. More details to follow closer to the date but please put **Saturday 30 September** in your diaries and start thinking about what cake you plan to bake.

## Free compost

There's a free compost giveaway being held on:

Saturday 13th May 9 – 11m at the Old South Oxfordshire District Council Car Park, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8ED

or Sunday 14th May 9.-11am Rye Farm Car Park, Culham Road, Abingdon OX14 3NN

Take your own containers (limited to 4 per person) and your shovel.

## Health

New initiatives in health include OCCG's phone app providing advice on when it might be best to visit a pharmacist or a GP, when to call NHS 111, and when self-care at home might be more appropriate. The app describes the type of injuries or illnesses seen at minor injuries units and first aid units in Oxfordshire and how to book an online doctor's appointment via Patient Access. Available for iPhones & Android.

In addition, proposals are being developed to improve health and care in Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West to help our communities be the healthiest they can be, while making sure that services are affordable for years to come. The Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) will set out the challenges and opportunities facing NHS and care services across the area. A local digital road map for Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West sets out the technology priorities for the patch to support health and social care.

Links to these and other items are available from the Talking Health website.



## Sheds

According to Thames Valley Police, there have been a number of break-ins into sheds recently.

Do your bit by making sure your outbuildings are secure and look out for any odd activity on your neighbours' property



## 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 21st April

Future dates will be circulated via the mailing list.

### St George's Day

Sun 23 April

Spring Walk at 2 pm

Chapel Hayes, Teas & Prize giving 2.30 - 4.30 pm

### Fun Run & Walk

Mon 1st May

11 am from the Village Hall

4.5 miles at your pace.

Contact Trevor Chambers 01235814892

### Plant Sale

Sat 27 May

Orchard Street, Didcot, Outside Sainsburys.

A fundraising event for Didcot Twinning Association. Bedding plants, herbs, perennials and shrubs to get your garden ready for summer.

### Hagbourne Fete

Sat 10 June

Hagbourne Recreation Ground.

Save the date for this important event

### Didcot's Farmers' Market

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

### Didcot Film Club

The club meets at Cornerstone in Didcot 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.



### Little Acorns

Happy, family run day nursery and out of school care.

Including drop off & pick up to some local schools.

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For further information, to request a brochure or to arrange a visit please contact us

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littleacorns@btconnect.com

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www.maryannndesign.co.uk

### 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.

### Next edition



please e-mail copy for inclusion  
in the next issue by **May 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

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

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

### Bare Essentials



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## house to rent in France

Noirmoutier Island, west of Nantes - sleeps 7

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great biking and sailing, two bedrooms,  
washing machine, dishwasher, TV



600€/week June + Sept  
750€/week July  
for more information  
and photos

contact [totterdells@btinternet.com](mailto:totterdells@btinternet.com) 01235 850080